**Administering an Intramuscular Injection**

*Participant must talk through practicum steps with judge.*

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| **CRITERIA**  **Time limit: 3 minutes** | Points  Possible | Points  Earned |
| The student selected the proper site for administration. | 10 |  |
| * Student selects the epaxial muscles **OR** the caudal thigh muscles. 3 points * Student places fingers around muscle mass of hind leg and squeezes leg to identify the femur **OR** student locates pelvis and spine and makes a V with two fingers on top of the spine in front of the pelvis. 5 points * Student sterilizes the injection site using a cotton ball saturated with alcohol. 2 points |  |  |
| The student directs the needle through the skin and into the muscle. | 10 |  |
| * Student holds syringe perpendicular to the muscle mass (vertically towards the floor for epaxial **OR** horizontally toward the head for caudal) – 3 points * Student avoids spine (epaxial) OR femur/sciatic nerve (caudal) 2 points * Student uses moderate pressure to direct the needle through the skin and into the muscle of the caudal aspect of the thigh **OR** the outside of the V made by the student’s fingers. 5 points |  |  |
| The student aspirates; if no blood is noted, inject. | 10 |  |
| * Student pulls back on the syringe plunger 2 points * Student notes signs of blood entering the syringe. 3 points * Student injects the medication into the muscle with slow steady pressure. 5 points |  |  |
| The student withdraws the needle and places in the sharps container. | **10** |  |
| * Student withdraws the needle from the injection site at the same angle it was inserted 3 points * Student checks for blood around the injection site. 2 points * Student leaves needle uncapped. 3 points * Student places the needle in the sharps container. 2 points |  |  |
| The student massages the area where the injection was given and praises the patient. | 10 |  |
| * Student massages the area where the injection was given. 3 points * Student checks for leakage of medication 2 points * Student praises the patient. 5 points |  |  |
| **TOTAL POINTS** | **50** |  |