

IAP can be assessed indirectly with an indwelling urinary catheter by measuring the pressure in the abdominal compartment.



Increased pressures may result from:

- Intraperitoneal bleeding
- Third-space fluid resuscitation
- Peritonitis
- Ascities
- Gaseous bowel distention
- Abdominal surgery
- Trauma/Burn

Intra-Abdominal Pressure (IAP) Monitoring

Normal Pressure 5-7 mm Hg
Elevated Pressure ≥ 12 mm Hg

Document obtained IAP in VS Flowsheet



Always notify provider if the IAP is greater than the ordered parameter in the Kardex

Equipment needed to obtain IAP

- Indwelling urinary catheter with collection bag
- Cardiac monitor with transducer cable
- Pressure bag set up
 - 3-way stop cock
- 60cc luer-lock syringe
 - Clamp
- Anti-septic pad

Refer to Lippincott Nursing Procedures 7th edition for how to prepare equipment and implement IAP measurement – page 415

