

OSCE

Candidate information

Your intern has been seeing a 24 year old male who has sustained an injury to his right arm. They are unsure how to manage this injury and have approached you for advice.

The patient is currently stable and his pain well controlled.

Domain	%
Medical expertise	50
Prioritisation and decision making	30
Communication	
Teamwork and collaboration	
Leadership and management	
Health advocacy	
Scholarship and teaching	20
Professionalism	

Penetrating venous injury arm

Actor (intern) information

You have been seeing 24 year old Ethan, who presented with an injury to his right arm. Ethan had an argument with his wife; she stabbed him with a pair of scissors.

Ethan is neurovascularly intact. He has no medical history or allergies. He is right hand dominant.

You requested a CTA of the arm and the report is available.

Prompts:

- What investigations should I do?
- If CT angio is mentioned, give the consultant the report (prop) attached
- Should I admit the patient under vascular?

Marking:

- Venous injury – based on real case. Vascular not concerned; the veins involved are not critical and are often used for venous graft harvest.

	Mark
Management – vascular opinion, but unlikely OT	2
Comprehends CT result – no arterial injury, venous only	2
Antibiotic cover – cefazolin or similar	1
Needs sutures – advises on type of sutures and method (briefly)	1
Suggests screening for other injuries	1
DV screening, offers psychological supports\	1
Advises cast/sling to immobilise area as appropriate	1
Asks about tetanus status	1

CTA – right upper limb

Indication for exam: penetrating injury to right arm

Results:

There is complete transection of the cephalic vein and the median cubital vein of the right arm at the level of the aconeus muscle of the right forearm. No active bleeding is noted on contrast phase.

Moderate soft tissue oedema and a moderate haematoma is present at the area.

No evidence of arterial injury.

No bony injury.

Clinical correlation is recommended.