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Veinlite LED for infants through adults.

A portable transilluminator

It can be a challenge to perform phlebotomy on a child or infant. Children squirm, and small veins can be difficult to visualize. Translite LLC recently introduced handheld transilluminators to make venipuncture and IV insertion substantially easier for medical professionals.

The Veinlite LED is a handheld device with rings of orange and red LEDs (light-emitting diodes) encircling a horseshoe-shaped opening. The device is shielded in a disposable cover, placed over the skin, and traction

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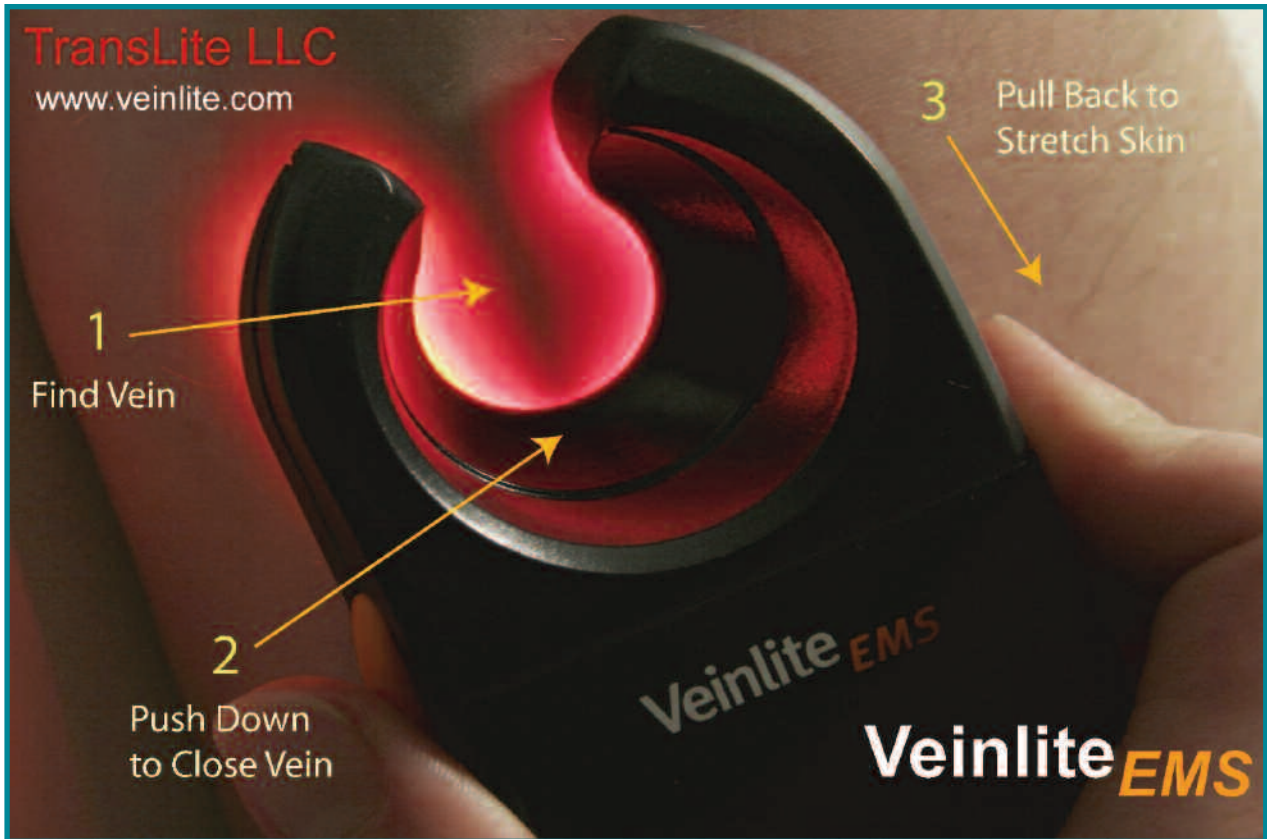
applied. The LEDs illuminate with the press of a button, and deoxygenated blood shows up as dark areas in the skin. The orange LEDs find superficial veins (they penetrate 3 mm), while the red LEDs (which penetrate 6 mm) can identify deeper veins, or superficial veins in individuals with darker skin.

The demo video shows the ease in which veins that would otherwise have gone unnoticed can be found. Another use for the device is to help visualize the needle entering the selected vein. In most cases a tourniquet is not needed to perform venipuncture when the Veinlite is used, and physicians say it reduces the number of tries needed to find a vein.

The Veinlite LED uses a rechargeable lithium battery and costs \$449. Accessories included with the device are



Veinlite PEDI for neonates and infants.



Veinlite EMS showing no tourniquet vein access technique.

a light shield that improves transillumination under fluorescent lighting, a pediatric adapter for babies or small children, 50 disposable plastic covers and a battery charger. Additional disposable plastic covers are priced at \$15 for 50.

A smaller and less expensive (\$179) unit, the Veinlite PEDI, is designed for use on neonates and infants. It oper-

ates on a single, disposable lithium battery and uses eight orange and four red LEDs.

A third unit, the Veinlite EMS (priced at \$199), completes the set of portable transilluminators. The Veinlite EMS uses two AA batteries, has one button which operates 8 orange and 8 red LEDs together, and is a less versatile low cost unit designed for use by paramedics.

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