

Veinlite

EMS-Vein Illumination Device

by Tracy Burns, NREMT-P



I am normally suspicious of most new “gadgets”. Most are overpriced or too complicated for emergency use, and rarely do they add any true improvement to care. The pocket-sized Veinlite, with sixteen LED lights powered by two AA batteries was surprisingly different. Regardless of the lighting conditions or the color of the patient’s skin, the Veinlite does quite well in assisting with vein imaging and access. It has one on/off switch and easy to follow instructions. With this ease of operation and only two attachments it is great for even the most technologically challenged. Those who have been around a while have used all the old tricks, warm wet towels around the arms and flashlights on the opposite side of the extremities for example. The problem with warm wet towels is the ability to find them in a ditch at two A.M. Flashlights present a whole list of issues in itself. The most significant of which is the chance of burns to the patient.

The Veinlite is simple, tough and basically risk free to the patient. The theory of the light is to use L.E.D lights to concentrate light to areas of tissue to illuminate the vein. One drawback is that you have to have reduced light sources in the work area. While this is usually not a problem in an indoor setting, it can be a setback in EMS units. To help with this it has an optional snap on light reducing shield. The shield is useful, but can be difficult to attach. You also have an optional pediatric shield that users I have talked with say is a must. The company also produces a small Veinlite Pedi. The light is very lightweight and durable and has preformed well when used in even near abusive situations.

Cleaning is as simple as wiping with 70% isopropyl alcohol. Even this is not a problem when used with the disposable cover. When used with quality batteries light life has been very extensive. TransLite, the company that produces the Veinlite EMS, lists LED life at 100,000 hours. It comes with a nylon case to protect it when not in use. For ease of transport it has a lanyard attachment. It has its own protective single use cover to keep it from contamination during patient use.

When I was an EMS manager the biggest question when buying new gadgets is affordability and will the caregivers use it. Veinlite EMS is very affordable and daily costs are usually limited to disposable covers and batteries. Caregivers I talked with really liked the Veinlite and would incorporate it into

care. Even with it’s limitations in the EMS world it is a good tool to have. Any product that saves time and reduces additional stress to the patient is worth it. With it’s low cost and ease of use and care EMS managers like it too. That a product meets the EMS field providers and managers approval is rare **EMS**



**EMS Tested
EMS Proven
EMS Approved**

You don't work in a doctors office. So finding a patients vein is already ten times harder than normal. Make your life and the life of your patient a little easier in what is probably already a stress situation. With the Veinlite EMS' C-shaped design and 16 light emitting diodes (LEDs), superficial veins can be seen and accessed anywhere on the body. It secures the vein in place and stretches the skin for easy needle insertion. Works great on all skin tones.



The durable carrying case is made to withstand the rigorous demands of the EMS Professional



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