This unit focuses on developing knowledge, competency and skills to insert peripheral VADs and manage most acute and chronic devices through access to online material, facilitated simulated workshops and practical application in the workplace with a nominated clinical mentor.

Vascular access devices (VADs) are utilised in health care settings across the world. Nurses, junior medical officers and paramedics are typically at the forefront of having to gain peripheral venous access. Many important aspects of vascular access are taught in isolation which are typically brief and provide surface learning rather than good theoretical understanding that underpin sound clinical skill and safe practice required for inserting and managing VADs.

STUDY MODE
A mix of online learning and workshops.

SPECIAL PREREQUISITES
- Working in a clinical facility that inserts and uses VADs.
- Availability of suitably experienced hospital based mentor to oversee procedural skills during training period.

ENTRY CRITERIA
All applicants must meet the following criteria to be eligible for entry:
- Current AHPRA registered nurse, medical officer or paramedic in an acute care facility/environment that inserts and manages vascular access devices.
- Permission from facility to undertake unit with a nominated clinical mentor in your facility.
- Availability to attend workshops.

UNIT STRUCTURE
This unit is structured as a 10 credit point unit.

Areas of study include:
- Introduction to Vascular Access
- Vascular Anatomy and Physiology
- Vessel Health and Preservation
- Intravenous Therapy
- Types of Vascular Access Devices
- Venepuncture and blood sampling
- Sterile blood culture collection
- Peripheral cannulation

- Strategies to reduce catheter associated bloodstream infection (CABSI)
- Care and Management of Vascular Access Devices
- Identifying and responding to complications.

You must apply using the ApplyOnline system https://applyonline.uws.edu.au/connect/webconnect

Once you have created an account and logged in, you can select the ‘apply for Non Award’ button.

Unit developed and delivered by an internationally recognised vascular access specialist.

For further information about this unit please contact Evan Alexandrou on telephone +61 2 9685 9506 or email e.alexandrou@westernsydney.edu.au