## Sizes of the I.V. Cannula

<table>
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<th>Size</th>
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| 14G  | ORANGE| 45     | 250-300           | • Used for adolescent and adult major surgery and trauma  
• infusion of large amount of fluids or colloids | • Painful insertion  
Required large insertion |
| 16G  | GREY  | 45     | 150-240           | • adolescent and adult major surgery and trauma  
• infusion of large amount of fluids or colloids | Painful insertion  
Required large insertion |
| 18G  | GREEN | 45     | 100-120           | • adolescent and adult major surgery and trauma  
• infusion of large amount of fluids or colloids | Commonly used |
| 20G  | PINK  | 32     | 55-80             | • Older children, adolescent and adult  
• Ideal for I.V. infusion and blood infusion  
• Medication administration  
• Emergency management | • Easy to insert into small, thin, fragile veins  
• Difficult to insert into though skin |
| 22G  | BLUE  | 25     | 22-50             | • Older children, adolescent and elderly adult  
• I.V. infusion with moderate flow rates  
• Medication administration | • Insertion to though skin is difficult |
| 24G  | YELLOW| 19     | 23                | • Infant toddler, older children  
• Major surgery and trauma among children  
• Can administer fluids and medication | Less painful  
Insertion to though skin is difficult |
| 26G  | VIOLET| 19     | 10-15             | • Neonate, infant and elderly adults  
• Suitable for infusion but infusion rate is low | Insertion to though skin is difficult and less painful |

**Flow rate calculation:**

When calculating the flow rate of IV solutions, remember that the number of drops required to deliver 1 ml varies with the type of administration set. Administration sets are of two types:

- **Macro drip set** (delivers 10-20 drops/ml)
- **Micro drip set** (60 drops/ml).

\[
\text{Flow rate} = \frac{\text{Volume of infusion in ml}}{\text{Time of infusion in minutes}} \times \text{Drip factor (in drops/ml)}
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