

VASCULAR ACCESS EDUCATION FOR NURSES IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Douglas M., Kolkova A., University Hospital Olomouc, Czech Republic



INTRODUCTION

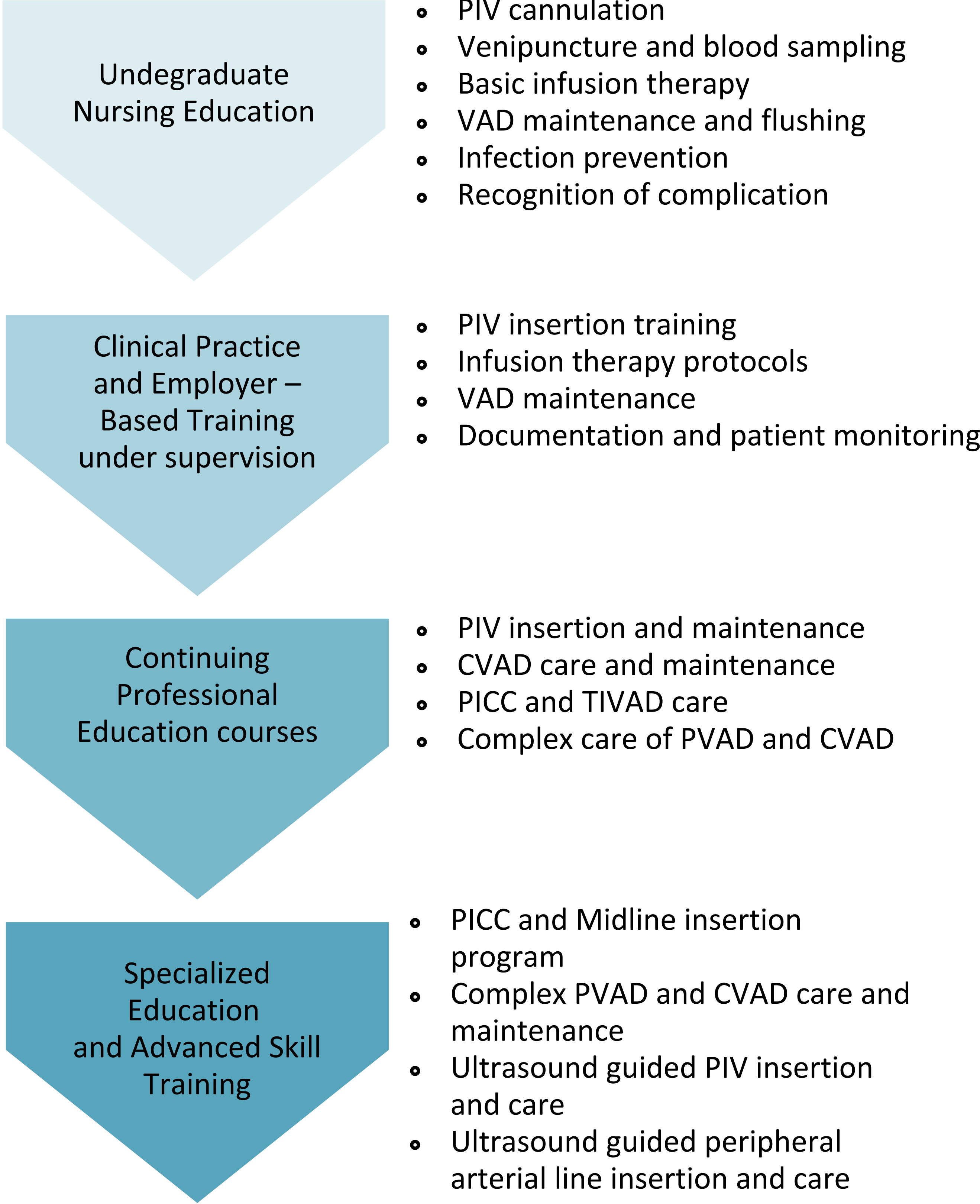
Vascular access represents a critical component of nursing practice. In the Czech Republic, the expanding utilization of ultrasound-guided techniques and long-term venous access devices has led to:

- an increase in the specialization of nursing roles – nurse led vascular access teams
- need for a systematic and evidence-based educational approach
- competency and standardization in vascular access practice
- standardized national vascular access specialization not available

METHODS

A descriptive review of current educational pathways available for vascular access in the Czech Republic was conducted. Sources included:

- undergraduate nursing curricula
- accredited postgraduate education programmes
- hospital-based training courses
- continuing professional development activities



RESULTS

- Foundational competencies in peripheral venous access are uniformly integrated into undergraduate nursing education.
- Advanced vascular access skills are predominantly obtained through postgraduate and in-service training, with availability largely concentrated in tertiary care and specialized institutions.
- The implementation of nurse-led vascular access teams has been associated with improved procedural standardization and adherence to best-practice guidelines.
- Marked variability persists in access to advanced training opportunities and formal competency validation across healthcare settings.

CONCLUSION

The establishment of standardized national vascular access specialization program, educational pathways, competency-based certification systems and a national registry may enhance clinical consistency, professional development, and patient safety in nursing-led vascular access care.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge the support of MD Martin Troubil PhD, Ing.,Bc. Andrea Drobilicova, Bc. Jana Grulichova and VAT FN Olomouc.

Contact: Martina Douglas
martina.douglas@fnol.cz

