

RESULTS
VIP SURVEY #6
WEDGE STRIPS, OPEN CHEST, PERICARDIAL

Enclosed are results of the AACN VIP Survey results on clinical practice issues. The Volunteers in Participatory Sampling (VIPs), is a group of AACN members who are demographically representative of our total membership. The VIPs provide AACN with a mechanism to reach a larger number of our membership and survey their thoughts and opinions on a variety of topics. AACN utilizes the VIPs to validate identified issues, trends and concerns in critical care nursing. VIPs serve a one year term and commit to responding to up to six mail or phone surveys.

Survey #6, completed in October 1994, is based on a response rate of 73% (678 members). The percentages for each question may not always equal 100% because participants may not have answered a particular question, may have been asked to check more than one answer if applicable or may have incorrectly marked the question, causing that answer to be unreadable by the scanner.

For several questions, the number of people responding varies. In order to accurately represent the data, the number of respondents for each question is in parentheses immediately following the question.

1. In your facility are you using the pulmonary artery diastolic pressure (Pad) instead of the pulmonary artery wedge pressure (PWP) to estimate left ventricular end-diastolic pressure (LVEDP) ? (579)

Yes	8%
No	37%
Depends on patient	30%
Depends on attending physician	21%
Not applicable	5%

2. Routinely, how often is pulmonary artery wedge pressure (PWP) obtained on your patients? (630)

Every hour	10%
Every two hours	18%
Every four hours	34%
Every eight to twelve hours	9%
Depends on patient	30%

3. How frequently do you routinely place a hard copy of either the arterial or pulmonary artery catheter waveform strips in the patients chart?

Every hour	<1%
Every two hours	83%
Every four hours	<1%
Every eight to twelve hours	<1%
Depends on patient	16%

4. In your facility, who may initiate open chest procedures, such as open chest massage? (655)

Nurses	<1%
Physicians	83%
Technicians	<1%
Other	<1%
Not applicable	16%

5. In your facility, do you use pericardial catheters? (652)

Yes	48%	No	52%
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6. If yes to Q5, are nurses allowed to: (check all that apply) (580)

Aspirate fluid	25%
Inject medication	13%
Flush Catheters	13%
Hook up to suction	11%
Monitor only	37%