Sapheneous Vein Harvest
Key Simulated steps and operative Principles

• Dissect, ligate and divide fine branches while harvesting the main vein
Goals and Objectives

• Dissect out small vessel branches carefully using fine instruments
• Tie off vessel branches securely without jeopardizing the integrity of the main vessel
Required Materials and Costs

- Pig spleen
- 4-0 silk tie
- Debakey forceps
- Metzbaum scissors
- Right angle
- Plastic box
- Wood board
Setup Step 1

De-fat hilum of the spleen to make the vessels easier to identify.

Not de-fatted spleen

De-fatted spleen
Setup Step 2

Nail spleen into horseshoe shape on a wood board
Setup Step 3

Put it into a small box
Spray with water to keep the spleen moist
Procedure Step 1

Start at one end and dissect one vessel
Once you have ~ 2-3cm of the end of the vessel dissected free, cannulate the vessel with a cannula and secure cannula
Procedure Step 3

Isolate side branches while dissecting out entire vessel
Procedure Step 4

Tie off all side branches with 4-0 silk
Procedure Step 5

Harvested Vein tested
Checklist

- Able to dissect out each branch without causing injury to the vein
- Securely tie off branches without air knots and without avulsion
- Do not cause significant stenosis at the main vein when tying off branches
- Test the final harvest vein with color flush with no or minimal leak