Brachial Plexus Catheters
(for adults age 15 or older)

- Infection seems less common than central axis catheters. Reported catheter durations up to 12 days.

- Interscalene and axillary infusions
  A. Bupivacaine: 0.125-0.25% @ 8-12 mL/hr
     0.25-0.33 mg/Kg/hr is reasonable limit
     (Infusions of 0.25% @ 10 mL/hr will result in some drug accumulation @ 48 hr)
  B. Mepivacaine: 1% @ 8-14 mL/hr

- Epinephrine is not indicated in the infusions

- Catheter analgesia should be augmented via oral opioids or IV PCA

- All patients must have a functioning peripheral IV or Saline Lock as long as the catheter is in place.

- Bolus for inadequate analgesia
  Lidocaine 75-100 mg via brachial plexus catheter
  Mepivacaine 75-100 mg via brachial plexus catheter