

Administering Medication via a PICC

Central Venous Access Device (CVAD)

Equipment required

Alcohol hand gel or soap	Pre-prepared saline syringes	Pre-prepared medication
Detergent wipes	Antiseptic swab pads	
Rubbish bin	Paper towel/laundered towel	
Large washable tray		
Sterile gloves		

Key points

1. Scrub the bung
2. Saline flush first
3. Give therapy
4. Saline flush using push, pause technique
5. Administer prescribed lock if required
6. Use a locking technique to prevent blood reflux

Start by

- Remove all jewellery/watches/false nails; short nails are preferable
- Wear laundered clothes or apron
- Roll up sleeves to the elbow
- Have a rubbish bin handy so that all used items go directly into the bin

Prepare your child

- Position your child comfortably so that you can access the line
- Explain to your child that once you have cleaned their bung it is really important they don't touch it so that it remains clean
- Offer your child something to comfort and/or engage them during the procedure. This can include their favourite toys, iPad or simply talking to your child

Wash your hands

- Turn on the tap for warm water
- Wet your hands and use enough soap to lather your hands and wrists
- Wash every surface of your hands and wrists
- Dry your hands with a clean paper towel, use the paper towel to turn off the tap



Assess the site (This is where the PICC enters the skin, and the skin around)

Look and feel the site to ensure there is no signs of infection and is securely dressed and safe to use Signs of infection includes:

- Warmth
- RednessSwelling
- Tenderness
- Pus & discharge

Check that the external catheter measurement of the device (where applicable) has not changed.

Prepare yourself and the equipment

- Wash or gel your hands and wrists
- Gather equipment and check packaging for damage and expiry date
- Clear and clean (With detergent wipes) the area where you will be placing the large tray and sterile gloves. Clean inside the tray and allow to dry
- Wash/gel your hands and wrists
- Open/leave in packaging two swab pads, two pre-prepared salines, medication and locking agent if required onto the tray
- Check the medication is labelled for your child and it is not past the expiry date
- Pop the seal on the two of the pre-prepared saline by pushing upward on the plunger, loosen the cap but leave it attached. Ensure all syringes have no air bubbles. Air bubbles can be cleared by gently tapping the side of the syringe to bring air to the top of the syringe, then gently pushing plunger to release the air from the syringe



Put on sterile gloves

Step 1

- Wash/gel hands, wrists and allow to dry
- Open the packet and unfold the contents to reveal the gloves without touching them



Step 2

- If you are right handed start with the right glove. Use your left hand to hold the cuff, while you slide your right hand in. Don't touch the outside of the gloves



Step 3

- Use your gloved hand to hold inside the cuff of the other glove while you slide your other hand in



Step 4

- Once both gloves are on you can now touch the outside of the gloves and make them fit
- Your gloved hands are now considered sterile, so touch only the bung and contents of the blue tray to limit contamination

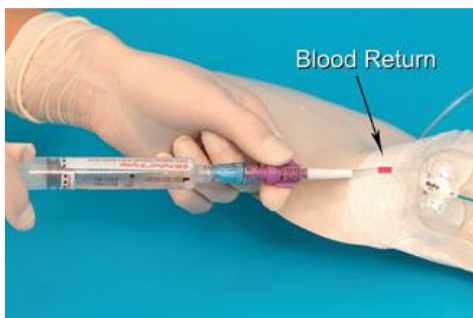


Checking line is OK to use and giving medication

- Open the large antiseptic swab pad and scrub the bung with friction for 20 seconds. Allow to dry for another 30 seconds
- Screw the syringe with saline onto the bung. Ensure the bung or tip of syringe does not touch your child, their clothing or environment. If contamination does happen, don't worry and start again with cleaning



- Pull back gently on the plunger with syringe in vertical position to check
 - a) For blood return.
 - b) Allow bubble to rise to the top of syringe.



- Push saline in slowly. Check there is no resistance or leaking seen anywhere along the catheter or under the dressing, if none then it is OK to use the line.
- Disconnect saline, take cap off medication and attach to the bung. Again ensure the bung or tip of syringe does not come touch anything during this step. If you need to put the bung down, it is OK and you can clean it again for 20 seconds with friction and allow to dry.
- Now either (nurse to complete):



Push medication slowly over 3-5 minutes, once complete unscrew syringe and screw in second saline syringe

OR

Attach to administration set as you have been shown by your nurse or doctor

Flushing after use

- If there has been a time delay with giving medication via an infusion and pump then it is important that before you flush the line that you repeat:
 - Prepare your child
 - Wash your hands
 - Assess the site
 - Prepare yourself and the environment
 - Put on sterile gloves
 - Check line is OK to use prior to flushing
- Following scrubbing the bung, screw on the second 10mL prepared saline syringe hold in a vertical (upright) position, pull back on the plunger to allow air rising to the top of the syringe and then push saline in using a stop-start technique to clear all the medication from the line. Leave a small amount of saline in syringe when you disconnect.
- Finish with prescribed lock solution. Leaving a small amount of fluid in syringe, disconnect syringe and clamp the line (if clamped device)
- Scrub the bung using your second antiseptic swab pad for 20 seconds
- Remove gloves and place rubbish into waste bin and finish by washing your hands



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