

PICC/Mid Line Catheter Removal Information Sheet

Prepare For Your Catheter Removal by Relaxing Your Arm Vein

- Just before your nurse arrives, place a warm cloth on the upper portion of your arm for 20 minutes
- If your nurse instructed you to shower first instead, remember to wrap your arm with plastic wrap so as not to get the catheter wet

Once Your PICC or Mid Line is Removed

- Help minimize vein irritation. Put a warm cloth on your upper arm for 20 minutes every few hours for the remainder of the day.
- Leave your bandage on until you are called the next day.
- Check your temperature about 30 minutes after the catheter is removed and again the following morning.

**If you experience
DIFFICULTY BREATHING or SUDDEN CHEST PAIN --- CALL 911
or go directly to the emergency room**

Call your IV Nurse on Call if there are

- **Signs of INFECTION**
If your temperature is above 100.4 F
If you should see purulent drainage where the catheter was pulled out
- **Signs of BLEEDING.**
A dressing has been applied to the catheter removal site. You may or may not see some bleeding.
If you see bleeding, **apply pressure** with your fingers for 1-2 minutes
If it doesn't stop, then call the nurse
- **Signs of VEIN IRRITATION.**
The vein can become irritated after removing the catheter.
If you see redness and a red streak up your arm at the removal site call the nurse.
- **Signs of a CLOT**
While not common, it can be serious and requires immediate action
If there is ARM SWELLING - NUMBNESS - DISCOLORATION
Call your doctor right away.

Notes: _____

References

Infusion Nurses Society. "Infusion Nursing Standards of Practice." *Journal of Infusion Nursing* 34, no. 1S (January/February 2011): S110.
New York State Department of Health, *Safe Sharp Disposal*. 2/13 <http://www.health.state.ny.us/publications/0909.pdf> (accessed 3/24/14).