Bard Access Systems, Inc.

How to Care For Your

Power. Saline. One.*

Patient Guide
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What is a PowerPICC SOLO* Catheter?

PICC is a short name for “Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter”, reflecting the fact that the catheter is inserted into a large vein in your arm (usually the basilic or cephalic vein). Unlike most catheters, the PowerPICC SOLO* catheter has a valve that allows liquids to flow in or out but it remains closed when it is not in use. The PowerPICC SOLO* catheter may also be used for contrast power injections at up to 5 ml/sec.

New Important Information:
Recommended Flushing/Maintenance Procedure(s)

The catheter should be maintained in accordance with standard hospital protocols. Recommended catheter flushing/maintenance is as follows:

1. Flush the catheter after every use, or at least weekly when not in use. Use a 10 ml or larger syringe.
2. Flush the catheter with a minimum of 10 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride, using a “pulse” or “stop/start” technique. Use of heparinized saline to lock each lumen of the catheter is optional.
3. Disconnect the syringe and attach a sterile end cap to the catheter hub and tighten securely.
4. Prior to blood sampling when infusing Total parenteral nutrition (TPN), follow routine maintenance procedure except use 20 ml saline and flush to clear TPN from the catheter.
5. If resistance is met when flushing, no further attempts should be made. Further flushing could result in catheter rupture with possible embolization. Refer to institution protocol for clearing occluded catheters.

NOTE: When injecting or infusing medications that are incompatible, you should always flush the catheter with a minimum of 10 ml saline before and after each medication.

NOTE: When maintained in accordance with these instructions, the PowerPICC SOLO* catheter does not require the use of heparinized saline to lock the catheter lumens. However, use of heparinized saline will not adversely affect the catheter and may be necessary based on patient status or use of alternate flushing and locking techniques.

Caution: Always remove needles or needleless caps slowly while injecting the last 0.5 ml of saline.

Caution: Use aseptic techniques whenever the catheter lumen is opened or connected to other devices.

Caution: The PowerPICC SOLO* catheter is designed for use with a needleless injection caps or “direct-to-hub” connection technique. Apply a sterile end cap on the catheter hub to prevent contamination when not in use. Use of a needle longer than 1.6 cm (0.625 in.) may cause damage to the valve.

Warning: Alcohol should not be used to lock, soak or declot polyurethane PICCs because alcohol is known to degrade polyurethane catheters over time with repeated and prolonged exposure.
**Power Injection Procedure**

1. Remove the injection/needleless cap from the **PowerPICC SOLO** catheter.
2. Attach a 10 ml or larger syringe filled with sterile normal saline.
3. Aspirate for adequate blood return and vigorously flush the catheter with the full 10 ml of sterile normal saline.
   **Warning:** Failure to ensure patency of the catheter prior to power injection studies may result in catheter failure.
4. Detach syringe.
5. Attach the power injection device to the **PowerPICC SOLO** catheter per manufacturer’s recommendations.
6. Contrast media should be warmed to body temperature prior to power injection.
   **Warning:** Failure to warm contrast media to body temperature prior to power injection may result in catheter failure.
7. Use only lumens marked “Power Injectable” for power injection of contrast media.
   **Warning:** Use of lumens not marked “Power Injectable” for power injection of contrast media may cause failure of the catheter.
8. Complete power injection study taking care not to exceed the flow rate limits. Do not exceed the maximum flow rate of 5 ml/sec.
   **Warning:** Exceeding the maximum flow rate of 5 ml/sec, or the maximum pressure of power injectors of 300 psi, may result in catheter failure and/or catheter tip displacement.
   **Warning:** Power injector machine pressure limiting feature may not prevent over-pressurization of an occluded catheter, which may cause catheter failure.
9. Disconnect the power injection device.
10. Replace the injection/needleless cap on the **PowerPICC SOLO** catheter.
11. Flush the **PowerPICC SOLO** catheter with 10 ml of sterile normal saline, using a 10 ml or larger syringe. Use of heparinized saline to lock each lumen of the catheter is optional.

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**How does the valve work?**

The **PowerPICC SOLO** catheter valve controls the flow of fluids to provide clamp-free infusion therapy. Positive pressure into the catheter (gravity, pump, syringe) will open the valve, allowing fluid infusion. When negative pressure (aspiration) is applied, the valve opens allowing for the withdrawal of blood into a syringe.
- Routine clamping of the catheter outside the body is not needed.
- Heparin is not needed to keep the catheter open.
What is the PICC used for?

There are several uses for the PowerPICC SOLO* catheter. It is primarily used to allow you to have special treatments over a period of time. Having the PICC will make it more comfortable for you because you will not have to have a needle inserted into a vein over and over again.

The PICC can be used to give you special fluids, medications, blood products, to take blood samples for testing, or contrast power injections. Your doctor or nurse will explain the reasons why you have this type of catheter.

Where does the PICC go inside the body?

The PICC is inserted by the nurse or doctor into a vein in your arm and threaded into a large vein that leads to your heart.

The catheter insertion site will need to have special care, which will be explained later in this booklet.
What is required to take care of the PICC?

There are several things that you may need to do to care for your PICC.

- Clean the insertion site and apply a clean dressing;
- Flush the catheter;
- Change the injection cap; and,
- Be able to detect problems and know what to do when they occur.

Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.

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Cleaning the insertion site and applying a clean dressing is usually referred to as “Site Care.” Site Care should be done on a regular basis as ordered by your doctor. The frequency will depend on the type of dressing, your general health, the type of fluid being infused into the catheter, and the condition of your skin. The doctor’s orders may also be changed for any of these reasons.

You will be instructed on how frequently to change the dressing. You may need to change the dressing daily, three times a week or weekly or if it becomes loose or soiled. Your doctor or nurse will select the most appropriate supplies for your routine care.

The “Site Care” procedure is outlined here for reference purposes only. Remember, you will receive instructions from your doctor or nurse on all procedures and you should not attempt any procedure alone until you feel confident that you can carry out all of the steps.

Supplies you will need:

- Sterile gloves
- ChloraPrep® Solution One-Step Applicator
- Sterile cover dressing (transparent or gauze)
- Sterile 2 in. x 2 in. gauze dressings
- Tape strips
- Securement device (if needed)

1. Clean the work surface by wiping with a paper towel that has been moistened with alcohol. Wipe dry or allow to air dry. Then place supplies on the cleaned surface.

2. **Wash your hands thoroughly using warm, soapy water.** Rinse completely and dry using a clean cloth towel or fresh paper towels.

3. Carefully open the dressing kit, or unwrap supplies, without touching the inside surfaces of the kits or wrappers.
4. Carefully remove the old dressing, pulling away from the catheter hub and toward the insertion site. Remove the tape or dressing carefully to avoid irritating your skin or pulling on the catheter.

5. Wash your hands again.

6. Carefully observe the insertion site and the skin around it. Look for redness or drainage. Measure the external length of the catheter to ensure it has not gotten longer or shorter. If you notice redness or drainage at the insertion site, have a fever or notice that the external length of the catheter is longer or shorter, **finish** the dressing change and then call your doctor or nurse.

7. Put on the pair of sterile gloves following the procedure you were taught. After you have the gloves on and adjusted, do not touch anything but the sterile supplies you will be using to clean the insertion site.

8. Carefully clean the insertion site with a ChloraPrep* Solution One-Step Applicator.

9. Pinch the wings on the applicator to break the ampule and release the antiseptic. **Do not touch the sponge.** Wet the sponge by repeatedly pressing and releasing the sponge against the treatment area until liquid is visible on the skin.

10. Use repeated back and forth strokes of the sponge for approximately 30 seconds. Completely wet the treatment area with antiseptic. Allow the area to dry for approximately 30 seconds. Do not blow or wipe away.

**Note:** Maximum treatment area for 1 applicator is approximately 4 in. x 5 in. Discard the applicator after a single use.
11. Some facilities place a securement device at this point. Check with your nurse or doctor to see if this pertains to your PICC.

12. Fold a 2 in. x 2 in. gauze in half and place it under the catheter hub for padding (if needed), and apply tape strips.

13. Check to see that the catheter is not kinked or pinched. Apply the cover dressing centering it over the insertion site, following the directions in the package as well as instructions from your doctor or nurse.

14. Secure the catheter to the dressing or arm with tape. This will prevent pulling of the catheter at the insertion site and decrease irritation. To help prevent possible catheter occlusion, coiling the catheter is not recommended.

15. Always secure the catheter in such a way that you can easily see the cap end. Your doctor or nurse will help you select the best method to secure the catheter. The type of clothing and normal activity will need to be considered in this procedure. You should periodically look at the capped end to be sure it is intact.

Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.
Under normal circumstances, your PICC will not need to be clamped. If damage to the catheter occurs, the catheter should be clamped immediately.

1. Use only smooth-edged clamps.

2. Follow the directions of your doctor or nurse regarding when to clamp.

There are different kinds of clamps.

The “bulldog clamp” is a small, heavy wire clamp that opens when the end is pinched. There are others that work in a scissor fashion but have smooth-edged surfaces to protect the catheter. Avoid use of surgical clamps or any clamps that have not been approved by your doctor or nurse.

When should you clamp?

You should clamp if there is any damage to the catheter or the catheter connector, or if there is any separation of the catheter and the catheter connector: **Always have a clamp available for emergencies.**

Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.
Flushing the PICC

The PICC is flushed with normal saline to help clear the PICC after receiving medications or having blood withdrawn for lab tests. Your doctor or nurse will tell you when you need to flush and with what solution. If the catheter is used only for periodic treatments, you will need to flush the catheter once a week with normal saline to keep it open and free of clots.

1. Flush the catheter after every use, or at least weekly when not in use. Use a 10 ml or larger syringe.
2. Flush the catheter with a minimum of 10 ml of 0.9% sodium chloride, using a “pulse” or “stop/start” technique. Use of heparinized saline to lock each lumen of the catheter is optional.

Note: Periods of increased physical activity may require more frequent flushing of your PowerPICC SOLO® catheter. Consult your nurse or physician for instructions.

There are pre-filled normal saline flush syringes available, or you may be instructed on how to draw up normal saline from a vial into a syringe. Do not use smaller than a 10 ml syringe for flushing. Do not flush against resistance.

Supplies you will need:

- Alcohol or povidone iodine wipe.
- A 10 ml syringe filled with normal saline, and prepared for use (your nurse or doctor will tell you how much normal saline to use).

The steps in the procedure are:

1. Wash your hands thoroughly.
2. Collect your supplies in a convenient place.
3. Using friction, clean the cap with an alcohol or povidone iodine wipe. Allow the cap to air dry - be sure not to touch the cap during this time. Do not blow on the area or allow the clean cap to dangle since this increases the chance of contamination of the area with bacteria.
4. If you are using a needleless adapter/safety needle follow the instructions of your nurse or doctor to properly access the injection cap or if you are using a needle, remove the needle cover and carefully insert the needle into the center of the catheter injection cap.

5. Using a 10 ml syringe, inject the normal saline into the catheter. As you inject the last 1/2 ml of normal saline, withdraw the needle/syringe from the injection cap.

6. Remove the needle and syringe from the injection cap. Discard in a needle container.

Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.

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Changing the Injection Cap

The catheter injection cap is the only part of the system that you will have to change. The injection cap is used for access and therefore needs to be changed regularly. The frequency will depend on how often your catheter is being used. Your doctor or nurse will instruct you on how often you need to change your catheter injection cap.

Supplies you will need:

1 - Sterile injection cap  
1 - ChloraPrep* Solution One-Step Applicator  
Normal saline  
1 - Syringe

The procedure to change the injection cap:

1. Wash your hands thoroughly.

2. Open the package of the new injection cap and prepare according to your instructions. Be sure the cap does not touch the outer surface of the package.

    **NOTE:** Pre-fill the injection cap with normal saline. Your doctor or nurse will teach you this additional procedure.

3. Unscrew the old injection cap and discard, holding the catheter adapter below the level of your heart. (The fluid level in the catheter may drop part-way into the catheter if the connector is held above the level of your heart).

4. Using a ChloraPrep* Solution One-Step Applicator, clean around the hub where the injection cap was connected to the catheter. Be careful not to touch the inside of the catheter. Allow to air dry.
5. Pick up the new prefilled injection cap only by the top. Attach the new injection cap by firmly screwing it onto the catheter hub.

6. Repeat steps 3-5 for the second injection cap.

Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.
Don’t expect problems but be prepared if they should occur. The following is a list of potential problems with specific information about each:

### Problem: Infection

**Signals:** You may have a fever with a temperature over 100°F, chills, swelling, or oozing at the insertion site. You may note a foul odor, feel pain or heat from the insertion site. General fatigue or decrease in activity in a child, even without fever, may indicate a problem.

**What to Do:** Call your doctor or nurse.

**How to Avoid It:** Follow instructions at all times to avoid contaminating the catheter. Wash hands before beginning any procedure. Wear a mask if you have a cold or a cough. Avoid persons who are ill. Do your procedures in a well ventilated, but draft-free place.

### Problem: Phlebitis

**Signals:** You may have redness, tenderness or pain, increased skin temperature, swelling, or the vein may feel hard. Some patients experience an increased redness around the insertion site about two weeks after the catheter has been inserted. This can be a normal part of the healing process. The redness of normal healing is **not** accompanied by pain, and goes away in 24-48 hours. Your doctor or nurse may suggest that you apply a warm compress several times daily until the redness is gone.

**What to Do:** Call your doctor or nurse.

**How to Avoid It:** Avoid strenuous use of the arm your catheter is in. Check your dressing regularly to make sure the catheter remains secure. Change the dressing every seven days or if it becomes soiled or loosened or as instructed by your doctor or nurse.
PROBLEM   Breakage or separation of the Catheter, extension leg, or catheter hub

SIGNALS   There may be leaking of fluid when you flush the catheter. You may be able to see the break or the separation of the catheter above the junction, a broken extension leg, or separation of the catheter hub from the extension leg.

WHAT TO DO   If the catheter body breaks, bend the catheter back on itself and tape securely. If there is not enough catheter left to bend back on itself, carefully pull 1-2 inches of the catheter out from the site, then bend it back on itself and tape securely to your arm. Call your doctor or nurse. If the catheter breaks on the extension leg, bend the extension leg on itself and tape securely, call your doctor or nurse as this may be repairable.

HOW TO AVOID IT   Do not over-twist the adapter when changing the injection cap. Do not use smaller than a 10 ml syringe for flushing. Do not flush against resistance. Never have scissors or sharp objects near the catheter.

PROBLEM   Disconnected Injection Cap

SIGNALS   The injection cap will be missing.

WHAT TO DO   If you don’t have a clean injection cap, bend the catheter back on itself and secure with a rubber band or tape, otherwise clean the catheter adapter connection and replace with a clean injection cap. Don’t use the same injection cap. See changing injection cap instructions. Remove the tape or rubber band. Call your doctor or nurse.

HOW TO AVOID IT   Secure injection cap when replacing. Check the injection cap after each use and periodically each day, to ensure it remains tight and secure.

PROBLEM   Loose Injection Cap

SIGNALS   The injection cap will be loose and easily able to turn.

WHAT TO DO   Tighten the injection cap.
HOW TO AVOID IT  Check the injection cap after each use and periodically each day to ensure it remains tight and secure.

PROBLEM  Occluded (Blocked) Catheter

SIGNALS  Unable to flush the catheter using normal pressure.

WHAT TO DO  DO NOT USE EXTRA PRESSURE.  Call your nurse or doctor.  The catheter will need to be unplugged by your nurse or doctor.

HOW TO AVOID IT  Flush on a regular schedule, after every procedure is done, or when blood has backed up into the catheter.  NOTE:  Periods of physical activity may require more frequent flushing of your PICC.  Consult your doctor or nurse for instructions.

PROBLEM  Difficulty Drawing Blood

SIGNALS  You may be able to flush the catheter easily but will not be able to withdraw blood.

WHAT TO DO  Call your doctor or nurse.

HOW TO AVOID IT  This is caused by the body’s attempt to wall off a foreign object by creating a fibrin sleeve around the catheter.  It cannot be avoided.

PROBLEM  Air in the Catheter due to Catheter Damage

SIGNALS  You may see air in the catheter or hear air enter the catheter.  This may occur due to breakage or dislodgement of the connections on the PICC.  If sufficient air has entered the catheter you may experience symptoms of shortness of breath, chest pain or lightheadedness.

WHAT TO DO  IF YOU FEEL SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR CHEST PAINS, CALL 911.  THIS IS A MEDICAL EMERGENCY.  Lie down on your left side or lie down with your feet well above your chest.
If you are not experiencing any symptoms or are able to attend to the catheter, immediately bend the catheter back on itself, between the break and the skin insertion site, and secure it with a rubber band or tape. If there is not enough catheter left to bend it back on itself, carefully pull 1-2 inches of the catheter out from the site, then bend it back on itself and tape securely to your arm. Tape the remaining catheter securely to your arm. Call assistance or see your doctor to have the catheter fixed or removed as soon as possible.

HOW TO AVOID IT  Do not use sharp objects near the catheter. Do not leave catheter dangling from insertion site. Make sure all catheter connections are tight and secure.

PROBLEM  Swelling of Neck & Arm on side of Catheter Insertion (Central Vein Thrombosis)

SIGNALS  You may notice swelling of your hand, arm, shoulder or neck on the side of the catheter insertion.

WHAT TO DO  Call your doctor. He will need to see you as soon as possible.

HOW TO AVOID IT  This happens to a certain number of people. The reason is unknown. Call your doctor or nurse.

PROBLEM  Swelling at Exit Site

SIGNALS  You will notice a lump increasing in size over the insertion site and occurring shortly after the insertion procedure.

WHAT TO DO  Apply gentle pressure over the dressing for a few minutes. Put ice in a plastic bag and apply over the dressing. Be sure not to get the dressing wet. Call your doctor or nurse if the swelling continues.

HOW TO AVOID IT  Follow instructions of your physician or nurse regarding any restrictions of vigorous activities immediately after insertion.
How will I know that everything is okay?

When you look at the catheter and insertion site, and you don’t see anything unusual, be confident that there are no problems. Some patients experience an increased redness around the insertion site about two weeks after the catheter has been inserted. This can be a normal part of the healing process. The redness of normal healing is NOT accompanied by pain, and goes away in 24-48 hours. Your doctor or nurse may suggest that you apply a warm compress several times daily until the redness is gone. There should not be any drainage around the catheter at this time. You will also know that everything is okay if you can flush your catheter freely.

During the time you have the catheter, your doctor or nurse may have you take your temperature every day and may request that you make other periodic observations. This will be another way of making sure everything is okay.

How will I know if something is wrong?

If you experience problems with the flushing procedure, you may have a clotting problem which requires immediate attention by your doctor or nurse.

A low grade temperature and a feeling of general fatigue/weakness that lasts for more than 24 hours may mean the beginning of an infection. If a child becomes less active for no apparent reason for longer than usual, an infection may be starting even though there is no increase in temperature.

If you have a fever with a temperature higher than 100° F, call your doctor or nurse immediately. Contact your doctor or nurse as soon as you suspect that something is wrong.
Are there any special instructions when caring for a child with a PICC?

**Note:** Periods of increased physical activity may require more frequent flushing of your child’s *PowerPICC SOLO* catheter. Consult your nurse or physician for instructions. There may need to be some activity limitations, especially just after the PICC is inserted. Substituting quieter activity is recommended instead of imposing activity restrictions.

The child should wear some type of close fitting clothing covering the arm to help keep curious fingers from handling the catheter. Not only is there a danger of pulling out the catheter, but also of contamination of the insertion site from excessive handling. This type of clothing will also prevent the child from putting the catheter in his or her mouth or from chewing on the catheter. It will be necessary to look at the catheter under the clothing at intervals during the day.

If the child is left in the care of a person who is not trained in catheter care, a review of emergency procedures should be done. This should be scheduled prior to the time the person will care for the child. Also make sure that emergency information and emergency phone numbers are available for the care giver.

**Can I bathe?**

You should ask your doctor this question. The answer will depend on your general health and general risk of infection. It will also depend on how long you have had the catheter in place. The doctor may allow you to bathe as long as you do not get the catheter dressing wet or damp.
Does the insertion site always need a bandage?

The insertion site should always have some type of dressing or bandage on it. The type you use will depend on the recommendation by your doctor and what works best for you. The dressing should be changed every seven days and as needed if the dressing is loose, soiled or damp, or as instructed by your doctor or nurse.

What do I do if I get a cold or cough?

If you have a cold or cough, your doctor or nurse may instruct you to wear a mask when you are caring for the catheter, especially during the cap change and dressing change procedures.

If I forget to flush on time, what should I do?

You should flush the catheter as soon as you remember. Never force fluid into the catheter, especially if it has been a while since you flushed. If you experience difficulty flushing, contact your doctor or nurse immediately.

What happens if I can’t flush the catheter?

If you have difficulty flushing the catheter, check your catheter to be sure that there are no kinks or other obstructions in the catheter. DO NOT try to flush against resistance!

If the catheter is not kinked or obstructed and you still cannot flush using the small amount of pressure that you have been applying, contact your doctor or nurse immediately. You may have a clot in the catheter. Never attempt to do anything with the catheter that you were not taught to do. You may dislodge a clot into the bloodstream or you may damage the catheter.
What happens to the PICC if it is damaged?

After you have taken the precaution of bending the catheter on itself and securing it with a rubber band or tape, you will need to have it repaired or replaced. The repair or replacement must be done using special equipment. If there is not enough catheter left to bend it back on itself, carefully pull out 1-2 inches of the catheter from the insertion site. Tape the remaining catheter securely to your arm.

If I break the needle in the injection cap, what should I do?

Remove the injection cap and broken needle. Apply a new injection cap as previously instructed and complete the flushing procedure. If unable to remove the broken needle, carefully pull out 1-2 inches of the catheter from the insertion site, bend the catheter back on itself and tape down securely. Call your doctor or nurse.

If I run out of supplies, what should I do?

Call the hospital, company, or pharmacy that is supplying you with what you need. If you run out of supplies and can’t reach your supplier, call your nurse, doctor or local pharmacist for assistance. You should always have extra supplies on hand so that you won’t run out.

If blood backs up into the catheter, is something wrong?

Blood in the cap and catheter won’t hurt you but it may enhance the growth of bacteria and increase the risk of clotting or infections. Blood usually backs up into the catheter only when there is increased internal pressure that is created by some form of physical activity or bending over, or if a clot is holding the valve open. If blood is noticed, you should flush the catheter as soon as possible.
What happens if the catheter won’t come out when I don’t need it anymore?

The catheter is removed by pulling it out. The catheter is made of a material designed to easily slip in and out of skin and blood vessels. The person removing the catheter has been specially trained to handle the procedure and the rare problems that may occur.

What happens if the catheter breaks?

The part of the system that is most likely to break is the end of the catheter that holds the injection cap. If this should occur, immediately bend the catheter on itself between the break and the skin insertion site, securing it with a rubber band or tape. If there is not enough catheter left to bend it back on itself, carefully pull out 1-2 inches of the catheter from the site, then bend it back on itself and tape securely to your arm. Tape the remaining catheter securely to your arm. **Call your doctor or nurse.**

What happens if the catheter gets pulled out?

Since the catheter is anchored to your skin, it is highly unlikely that it will come out unless it is pulled on. The catheter may stretch a bit after it has been used a while, and it may seem like it has slipped out. If you suspect that the catheter is slipping out, call your nurse or doctor.

If I have a treatment, do I need to flush the catheter?

The final step in any treatment done through the catheter is a flush of some type. If the catheter has been flushed following treatment, use that time as the last flush and schedule your next flush at the recommended interval. Be sure to check with your doctor or nurse, since the flushing procedure varies depending on what the catheter is being used for and your level of activity.
Can I engage in sexual activity when I have the catheter?

There is no prohibition against sexual activity because of the catheter. Some safety precautions taken before you begin any activity should be observed. The dressing at the insertion site should be secure and the catheter should be completely covered by the dressing and secured with tape at the hub so it is not hanging free. If blood is noticed in the catheter, flush it with 10 ml of normal saline. Do not hesitate to discuss this with your doctor or nurse.

What should I do if I become allergic to tape?

There are other choices of hypoallergenic tapes that can be used. It is important to be aware of any skin problems near the insertion site because the danger of infection increases if there is skin irritation.

Should I wear a medical alert type bracelet or have some other information available regarding my catheter?

It would be a very good idea to wear something to alert others that you have a peripherally inserted central venous catheter. If you were in an accident or became ill and couldn’t give this type of information yourself, the bracelet could be lifesaving by informing emergency personnel that you have a catheter. There are commercial companies that have medical alert bracelets or you may want to ask for a hospital type plastic waterproof I.D. band as a temporary measure. Another option is the catheter Maintenance/ I.D. card given to you by your nurse or physician. Place the card in your wallet and carry it with you at all times.

Should someone else learn the procedures?

Most people can not change a PICC dressing by themselves. Having another person available who has been trained in all of the necessary procedures is important. The most important thing is that someone else knows how to do emergency procedures.
I've heard that some chemicals can hurt the catheter. Is this true?

Some chemicals can damage the catheter. It is important not to use anything near the catheter unless you check with your doctor or nurse. Acetone, such as that found in nail polish remover or some tape removers, is especially harmful and should not be used.

How long can the catheter stay in place?

Your doctor is the best source for this answer. The catheter is designed to stay in place for long periods of time, but each patient situation is unique. The answer depends on what the catheter is used for, your general health, and the care and attention paid to the procedures. The better care you take of your catheter, the longer you may be without complications.

Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.

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“YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!”
Quiz

Answer the following questions by circling T for true or F for false. The answers are on the next page.

1. If there is a break in the catheter, the first thing that I should do is call the doctor.  T  F

2. If the cap becomes loose, it should be tightened immediately.  T  F

3. If the cap falls off, replace it immediately.  T  F

4. “Site Care” must be done between 9 and 10 a.m.  T  F

5. It is okay to use more force during the flush procedure to get the flow going.  T  F

6. I can jog or do other activities as long as it is okay with my doctor or nurse.  T  F

7. To prevent contamination, I should keep the catheter under my clothing and not disturb it between flushes.  T  F

8. During the dressing change, if I notice that the catheter has come out a little bit, I should push it back in.  T  F
Answers

1. **False.** The first thing to do is to bend the catheter back on itself and secure with a rubber band or tape, then call the doctor or nurse.

2. **True.**

3. **False.** The cap needs to be replaced but with a sterile cap. If the same cap is reapplied there is an increased risk of infection. Follow the full procedure for cap change.

4. **False.** You can do “site care” at 3 a.m. if you wish, as long as you do it on a regular basis and are alert enough to do the procedure carefully.

5. **False.** You may dislodge a blood clot or rupture the catheter which is dangerous. If you have difficulty flushing, stop the procedure and call your doctor or nurse.

6. **True.** The catheter should not interfere with your normal activity as long as you get permission for the activity from your doctor or nurse.

7. **False.** You should periodically look at the catheter, especially if long periods of time elapse between flushes. This is especially true for the period of time immediately following the insertion of the catheter.

8. **False.** You should call your doctor or nurse. Never try to re-insert the catheter. This may lead to an infection.
Comments and/or changes as recommended by your nurse or physician.
Patient Name: ______________________________ Date: ________

Base Line Right/Left Upper Arm Circumference was __________ cm.

Catheter French Size: _______  Product Code: ________________

Name of Catheter: ___________  Catheter Length cm: __________

Lot No.: ____________________  PICC was inserted via the Right/Left

Basilic/Cephalic Vein. Blood Return was Obtained/Not Obtained. _____

______ cm. of insertable catheter length exposed from insertion site.

Hospital: ___________________________ Phone: ______________

Doctor: _____________________________ Phone: ______________

Nurse: ______________________________ Phone: ______________

Supplier: ___________________________ Phone: ______________

List of Supplies Needed:

Dressing Supplies:  Flushing Supplies:

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

___________________________________ _____________________________

Catheter Care Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Care</th>
<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
<th>TUE</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THU</th>
<th>FRI</th>
<th>SAT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Flushing: ___________________________ _____________________________

Cap Change: ___________________________ _____________________________

Special Instructions: _______________________________________________
I, ___________________________________________

have received the booklet -- How to Care
for your PowerPICC SOLO* Catheter --
from ____________________________.

(print name of person giving booklet to patient or care-giver)

(signed) ____________________________ (signed) ____________________________
(date) ____________________________ (date) ____________________________
ChloraPrep® Solution One-Step Applicator Active Ingredients

- Chlorhexidine gluconate 2% w/v...antiseptic
- Isopropyl alcohol 70% v/v...antiseptic

Inactive Ingredients

- USP purified water

For further information or questions regarding ChloraPrep® One-Step Applicator call:
1-800-523-0502 (8 a.m.-5 p.m. CST)

An issued or revision date for these instructions is included for user’s information. In the event two years have elapsed between this date and product use, the user should contact Bard Access Systems, Inc. to see if additional product information is available.

Revised Date: July 2007.

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