

# How to give...

## IV Antibiotics using an Infusor via a PICC or Port-a-Cath

**Name:**



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## Equipment to give the Antibiotics



This is what you need to collect on your work space.

1. 2 X 10 ml posiflush syringes
2. 2 X alcohol swabs
3. New infusor

## Checking the infusor (Antibiotic)

Check that the details on the infusor are correct :

- ▶ Right patient name
- ▶ Right drug
- ▶ Expiry date
- ▶ Dose of drug

# How to...

## Hand Hygiene Guide

- ▶ Always wash your hands before starting.
- ▶ As you wash your hands ask your child to sing “Happy Birthday”.
- ▶ You can stop hand washing when the song finishes.



1.

Wet hands with water and apply enough soap to cover all hand surfaces.



2.

Rub hands palm to palm, up to and including wrists.



3.

Right palm over back of left with linked fingers and vice versa.



4.

Palm to palm with fingers linked.



5.

Backs of fingers to opposing palms with fingers interlocked.



6.

Rotational rubbing of left thumb held in right palm and vice versa.



7.

Rotational rubbing firmly, with closed fingers of right hand in left palm and vice versa.



8.

Rinse hands well with water.



9.

Dry hands with a paper towel.

## Preparing the flushes & “discard” syringe

Wash your hands. Follow the hand hygiene guide on page 4

- ▶ Prepare the 2 posiflushes
- ▶ Check the expiry date of the posiflush syringes
- ▶ Remove air bubbles from posiflush and replace caps
  
- ▶ Prepare 1 “discard” syringe from posiflush
- ▶ Push out 5mls to leave 5mls in “discard” syringe.
- ▶ Remove air bubbles and replace cap

## Connecting the Infusor

1. Remove Tubi grip (stretchy net) or bandage from arm
2. Check the PICC site and arm:
  - *If it is red, swollen or painful, do not continue - contact the Homecare nurse, Nurse Specialist or ward*
3. Wash your hands. Follow the hand hygiene guide on page 5
4. Clamp PICC / Portacath
5. Remove ‘old’ infusor and put in rubbish
6. Wipe the luer plug on the end of the PICC / Portacath line with an alcohol wipe and allow to dry
7. Connect “discard” syringe
8. Unclamp PICC / Portacath
9. Draw back 1ml (the total amount of fluid in the syringe is 6ml) and discard

## How to...

10. Wipe luer plug with alcohol wipe and allow to dry
11. Connect 1st posiflush syringe to luer and push in
12. Use push / pause method. This creates a turbulent flow
13. Remove empty syringe
14. Remove the end cap from the tubing of the infusor bottle
15. Watch for fluid to appear at the end of the tubing
16. Attach the tubing to the PICC / portacath line
17. Tape the white connector on infusor tubing (part that screws onto the PICC) flat onto your child's skin
18. Thread the infusor tubing under your child's clothes, up their arm and down their chest
19. Place the infusor bottle in the carry pouch
20. Tape the tubing to the child's chest if required — the tubing should not be bent or twisted

## Disposal of Equipment

All rubbish can be put in your normal rubbish bin

## How to Care for the Infusor

- ▶ Keep the Infusor in the carry pouch provided
- ▶ It is important to keep the infusor as close as possible to the height of your PICC / Portacath insertion site
- ▶ Don't let your child play with the infusor
- ▶ Keep the Infusor out of direct sunlight
- ▶ Infusors are single use only
  - *Throw the bottle & tubing away once finished*
- ▶ Tape the white connector piece (connected to your PICC line) to your child's skin
  - *This helps to control the flow of the Infusor*
- ▶ Never disconnect the infusor unless you are changing the infusor
- ▶ Keep Infusor dry

### Showering or Bathing:

- ▶ Put the infusor in a plastic bag
- ▶ Place the infusor on shower shelf or outside the shower or bath.

### When Sleeping:

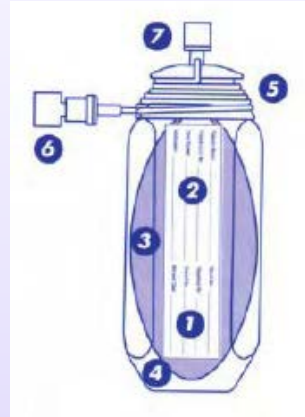
- ▶ Place the Infusor on its side under your child's pillow
- Or
- ▶ Leave the Infusor in the pouch
- ▶ Attach the pouch to your child over night
- Or
- ▶ Place on a bedside table by your child's bed



# How to...

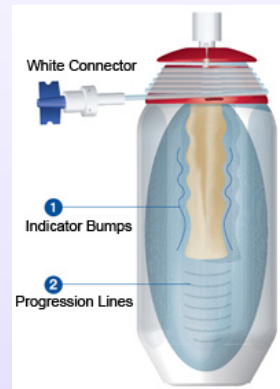
## Don't use the Infusor if:

1. It is after the expiry date on the label
2. The name on the label is incorrect
3. The balloon has burst or is split
4. There is any sign the medication is leaking
5. There is a split or break in the tubing
6. The luer cap has been removed or is missing
7. The fill port protector cap is missing or has fallen off



## Checking the progress of the Infusor

- ▶ The infusor is empty when the balloon is completely deflated.
- ▶ All 8 indicator bumps are clearly visible (4 on each side)
- ▶ The Infusor works slowly.
- ▶ It may take at least 4-6 hours to notice the balloon becoming smaller
- ▶ The balloon will get smaller



## Troubleshooting

### Medication infuses too slowly

- ▶ Check that the clamp on the PICC / Portacath is **OPEN**

The flow rate that the medication goes in may vary over the day

When changing the infusor there may be some medication left in the bottle:

- ▶ If the amount left in the bottle is less than a golf ball:
  - *This is okay*
- ▶ If the amount is larger than a golf ball:
  - *Contact your Homecare nurse for advice*

Here are some things you can check:

- ▶ Is the white infusor connector taped to your child's skin?
- ▶ Is the infusor too warm or too cold?
  - ▶ **The infusor should be at room temperature**
- ▶ Is the top of the infusor as close as possible to the level of the PICC / Portacath insertion site (Where the white connector is taped to your skin)

### Medication does not infuse

If the medication is not infusing:

- ▶ Clamp the PICC line
- ▶ Disconnect the infusor.
- ▶ Flush the PICC line with a posiflush & attach a new infusor as per page 6
- ▶ Keep the infusor so it can be returned to the company for testing

# How to...

## Medication infuses too fast

The infusor may finish early:

- ▶ Up to two hours early is okay
- ▶ Leave the Infusor attached and change at the normal time

If it is finishing more than 2 hours early— contact your Homecare nurse or Nurse Specialist for advice

Here are some things you can check:

- ▶ Is the infusor too warm or too cold?
  - ▶ *The infusor should be at room temperature.*
- ▶ Does your child have a temperature?
- ▶ Is the white Infusor connector taped to your child's skin?
- ▶ Is the top of the infusor as close as possible to the level of your PICC / Portacath insertion site (Where the white connector is taped to your skin)

If the medication keeps finishing too early:

- ▶ clamp the PICC line
- ▶ Disconnect the Infusor
- ▶ Flush the PICC line and attach a new Infusor as per page 6
- ▶ Keep the old Infusor so we can return it to the company for testing

The Infusor leaks or bursts

- ▶ Immediately clamp the PICC / Portacath line
- ▶ Use the blue clamp in safety kit
- ▶ Disconnect the Infusor and replace the luer cap on the end of the Infusor tubing
- ▶ Flush the PICC line and attach a new Infusor as per page 6
- ▶ Keep the old Infusor so we can return it to the company for testing





