

Central Catheter Patient Information Booklet

EN

Patient's Name: _____

Doctor's Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Nurse's Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Home Care Agency: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Contact Name: _____

Catheter Information: _____

Catheter Coating: Coated: _____ Non-coated: _____

Date Inserted: _____

Inserted by: _____

Lot Number: _____

Catheter Length: _____

Introduction:

Your doctor has requested that a Central Catheter be inserted for your medical treatment. This booklet has been given to you to provide information about the Arrow® Central Catheter. Use it in addition to the directions you have received from your nurse or doctor.

The Central Catheter is a small tube that is placed into a blood vessel in one of your arms, your neck or chest and the tip is advanced to a position that is close to your heart (refer to Figure 1). Medications or nutritional fluids can be given through the catheter for an illness that requires treatment over a period of time. A Central Catheter is an alternative to having repeated needle sticks or surgery to place another kind of intravenous (IV) device.

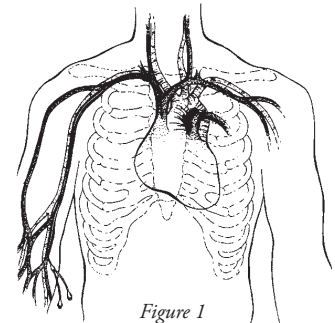


Figure 1

The Central Catheter consists of a long, hollow tube (lumen) with one (or more) holes at the tip that lies within the body and a hub at the other end that is outside of the body on the arm, neck, or chest surface (refer to Figure 2). Medications or fluids can be given through the hub continuously or injected periodically.

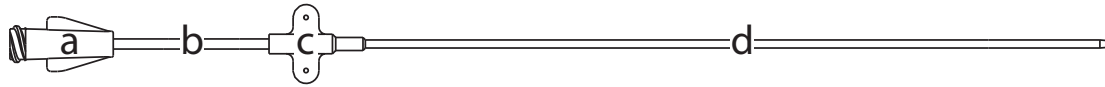


Figure 2: a) Infusion Hub b) Extension Line c) Anchoring Hub d) Catheter Tube (Lumen)

Catheter Insertion:

The catheter is inserted by a doctor or nurse into a blood vessel on the inside of your arm, your neck or chest. Measurements are taken to estimate the amount of catheter that needs to be inserted. An x-ray may be taken to provide a picture of where the catheter tip lies within your body. The doctor or nurse will use sterile technique to insert the catheter. This means that precautions will be taken to make sure that germs are not inserted with the catheter. Similar care should be taken with all further catheter-related procedures.

Catheter Care and Maintenance:

Dressings:

The insertion site and external portion of the Central Catheter should be covered with a protective dressing. The dressing will help to hold the catheter in place and keep the area clean and protected from germs.

Because the catheter is small and pliable, the catheter body can be anchored in place by using stitches, sterile tape strips or a special anchoring device. The special anchoring device consists of a catheter clamp and a crescent-shaped adhesive strip. The strip is placed on the arm and the catheter clamp that has been applied to the catheter is snapped into place (refer to Figures 3 and 4). Another dressing, either gauze or a transparent sheet, is placed over the site as a final protective measure.

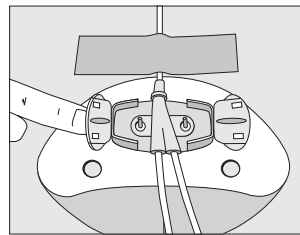


Figure 3

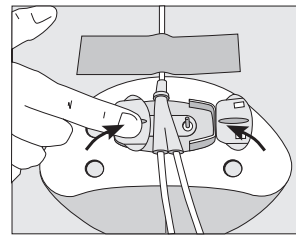


Figure 4

If you or a family member have been trained to redress your catheter, follow the directions given by your doctor or nurse. Be sure to wash your hands prior to starting the procedure and use sterile technique as you have been instructed. As a safeguard, do not use sharp instruments such as scissors during the dressing change to avoid accidentally cutting your catheter. Inspect the insertion site regularly for any redness or drainage, and watch the catheter to make sure it does not move in or out further than when it was inserted. If the dressing becomes loose, make sure that it is changed.

Flushing:

To keep your Central Catheter open to flow, it may be flushed and filled with a weak sterile salt solution also known as sterile normal saline or an anti-clotting solution. The solution keeps blood from backing up into the lumen and forming a clot. If you or a family member are caring for your catheter, follow the directions given by your doctor or nurse. They will tell you what solution should be used as well as the amount that should be given and how often the catheter should be flushed.

Complications:

Although you should not expect a problem to occur that is related to your Central Catheter, it is important that you become familiar with the signs and symptoms that might signal such a problem. See the following table.

Signs and Symptoms	Possible Cause	Directions	Prevention
If your catheter has the special infection protection coating of chlorhexidine, you need to be aware of the possible allergic reaction(s) associated with the use of chlorhexidine Redness at insertion site, hives, itching, anxiety, chest discomfort or tightness, cough, difficulty breathing, difficulty swallowing, abnormal (high-pitched) breathing sounds, dizziness or light-headedness, flushing or redness of the face, nausea or vomiting, palpitations, swelling of the face, eyes, or tongue, unconsciousness, wheezing	Allergic reaction to chlorhexidine Most severe allergic reactions occur within seconds or minutes after catheter insertion when you will be in the presence of the nurse or doctor, however, some reactions can occur after several hours Anaphylaxis is the severest reaction which can occur It occurs suddenly and within minutes of catheter insertion and immediate medical attention is needed	Tell the nurse or doctor about any of these symptoms while the catheter is being inserted or as they occur	Inform the doctor or nurse of any allergies associated with chlorhexidine before having the catheter inserted
Drainage, redness, pain, swelling around insertion site, fever and chills	Infection	Call doctor or nurse	Use sterile technique Keep sterile dressing over site Wash hands prior to procedures
If the catheter is placed in your arm - Arm or shoulder swelling, swishing in ear on same side of body where catheter is located while medication given	Catheter position change	Call doctor or nurse Do not inject any solutions into catheter until talking with doctor or nurse	Inject flushing/locking solution slowly
Inability to inject	Catheter clotted or kinked	Call doctor or nurse	Completely fill catheter lumen with locking solution between treatments Flush catheter well before and after medications
Leaking from external catheter	Break in catheter material, hub separation	Call doctor or nurse Fold catheter together below leaking area and tape securely	Do not use alcohol or acetone (as in nail polish or tape remover) on catheter Do not pull on catheter
Pain on injection	Inflammation of vein	Call doctor or nurse	Medications should be given slowly

Questions:

The following questions cover topics concerning your daily routine while your Central Catheter is in place. You may want to discuss them with your doctor or nurse.

- Are there any limits to my activities?

- May I bathe/shower and swim while my catheter is in place?

- How often should my dressing be changed?

- How often should my catheter be flushed and what solution should be used?

- What fluids and medications will I be receiving through my catheter?

- Are there any special instructions concerning my IV medications?

- Who should I call if I have questions about my catheter?

Catheter Care Schedule

Date	Dressing Change	Flushing Procedure	Tubing Change	Cap Change

Medication Administration

Date	Time	Medication	Dosage

Notes:
