

## ACCESSING A CVAD/LINE ENTRY FOR IV THERAPY

### Steps required for accessing a CVAD via needless connector cap for the purpose of administering IV fluids/medications (or drawing blood)

#### What you need

- 4 X 4 sterile gauze
- (2) 10 ml prefilled 0.9% Sodium Chloride syringe
- (1) alcohol swab
- New primed tubing
- Non-sterile gloves

#### Steps

1. Assemble equipment and wash hands.
2. Apply non-sterile gloves.
3. Loosen the pre-filled 0.9% Sodium Chloride syringe from the package. Remove the white cap and remove all air bubbles from syringe. Tighten syringe.
  - Do not let end of syringe or cap become contaminated by touching any non-sterile surfaces.
4. Open the package of sterile gauze and swab. Place swab on sterile gauze. Pick up needless connector with non-dominant hand.
  - Do not put needless connector down until procedure is complete
5. Use 4 X 4 sterile gauze to grasp IV connector cap. Scrub the Hub of the needless connector (top and sides) for 15 seconds using friction. Allow to dry 15 seconds.
  - To reduce transmission of microorganisms.
  - If CURO is being used, simply remove. No need to Scrub the Hub unless the end gets touched or contaminated.
6. Remove the white cap from the pre-filled 10 ml 0.9% Sodium Chloride syringe. Attach the syringe to the connector port. Unclamp the CVAD line. Using light pressure pull back on to plunger to check for blood return. Then, continue to flush the 0.9% Sodium Chloride to clear the line using turbulent flush.
  - Watch for any resistance, pain, discomfort or leakage of fluid around the CVAD.
  - Turbulent flush will help to clear the CVAD of any fibrin or debris that may be sticking to the wall of the catheter.

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- If there is no blood return, heparinize the CVAD with the required amount of heparin. Contact your organization or health care provider.
7. If administering medications: remove the syringe and discard. Attach prepared medication syringe, or new IV tubing. Administer the medication as ordered.
  8. Attach new 0.9% NS pre-filled syringe and flush after each medication.
  9. Heparinize as per orders. (Please refer to the guideline "Heparinizing a Central Venous Access Device").
    - If being used, apply CURO once heparinized
  10. Dispose of equipment in appropriate receptacles.



CHEO uses needleless connector caps which are designed to help reduce the risk of occlusions and infections.

**Caution! Curo, caps from syringes, and packaging are choking hazards for children. Please ensure you remove these items from your work area immediately upon completion.**