

# Central Venous Catheter (CVC) Implanted Port

## Implanted Port:

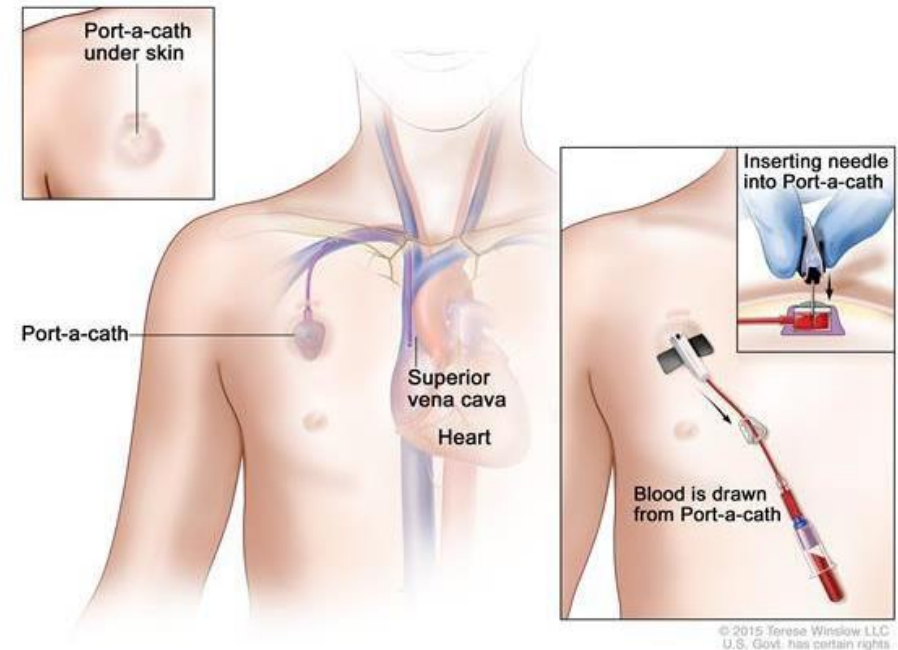
- ❖ A port is a type of central line with a soft tube (catheter) connected to a rubber disc (septum) that can be left in for months to years.
- ❖ It is placed in a large vein (vessel) near the heart and allows for drawing blood or giving blood, medications, solutions (fluids), and IV nutrition.
- ❖ The port is placed in the chest during a simple operation with general anesthesia.

## After the Surgery:

- Patient can return to school one day after surgery.
- Take sponge baths for 2 days, and leave the dressing on.
- Take a normal bath/shower after 2 days, and dressing can be taken off.
- Special tape/glue at or around the port will come off in 1-2 weeks.
- Avoid swimming and heavy lifting for 2 weeks after surgery.
- If the patient is in pain, check temperature first. If there is no fever, you may give over-the-counter pain medicine as needed.

## Port Use and Maintenance:

- Always wash hands with antibacterial soap before handling the port.
- Numbing cream can be put on the site before accessing the port.
- While accessed (needle is in)
  - Change the dressing/needle every 7 days and as needed
  - Flush the line daily while the needle is in place
- While de-accessed (needle is out)
  - Patients can live a normal lifestyle
  - Port will need to be accessed and flushed once a month when it is not in use



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## Notify the doctor if your child develops:

- Chills
- Fever higher than 101 degrees Fahrenheit
- Increased redness, tenderness (soreness), swelling, bleeding, or pus at the port site

## Resources

- Family Resource Center offers a CVC class for caregivers.
- Primary care team can give you more information about taking care of the line, risks and benefits.
- Child Life can help explain the procedure to your child.