

Epidural Catheter

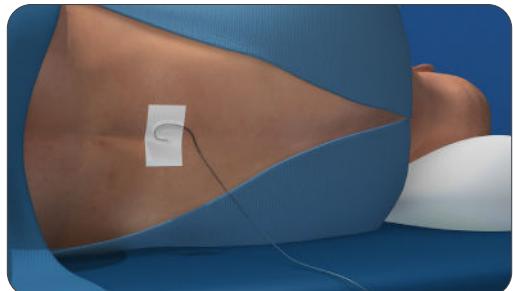
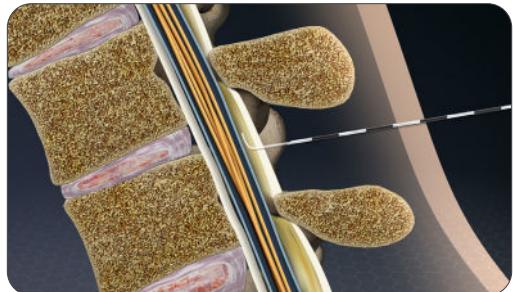


WHAT IS AN EPIDURAL CATHETER?

An epidural catheter is a medical device that is used to administer pain relief or anesthesia. Administering medication through an epidural catheter is a safe and effective way to manage pain during labor, childbirth, certain surgeries, and chronic conditions.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The epidural catheter, resembling a thin plastic tube, is inserted through the skin into the epidural space within your spinal canal. Once positioned, the catheter allows for the continuous or periodic administration of medications. These medications work to block pain signals originating from the nerves within the spinal cord, providing pain relief to the specific area or region where the catheter is placed.



WHO IS A GOOD CANDIDATE FOR AN EPIDURAL CATHETER?

At Nura, we use epidural catheters to relieve severe cancer-related pain for a short period of time. The catheter typically remains in position for under 48 hours and functions as a temporary solution until you can undergo the implantation of an intrathecal pain pump, which will provide continuous, long-term pain management.

An epidural catheter is a valuable tool that allows us to help individuals effectively manage severe pain in the comfort of their homes rather than extended stays at the hospital.

WHAT TO EXPECT?

MEDICATION INFORMATION

Nura uses bupivacaine to achieve temporary pain relief via the catheter. Bupivacaine is a strong local anesthetic that can help numb an area of the body to relieve pain.

DOSING INSTRUCTIONS

DOSE	FREQUENCY	CAUTION
 5cc 1 syringe	 Every 2-4 Hours, no more than 10x/day	 Wait at least 2 hours between injections

One of our providers will educate you or your family member on how to administer the medication via the epidural catheter. You will be given pre-filled syringes of bupivacaine 0.25%. Each syringe will contain 5cc of bupivacaine, the maximum dose per injection. Once you open a syringe to control pain, inject it slowly for over 5 minutes, then discard it. You can inject less than 5cc if your pain is less severe. Stop injecting if you experience light-headedness, leg numbness, weakness, or any adverse event.

MEDICATION STORAGE

Bupivacaine syringes should not be refrigerated and can be stored in a safe cupboard away from children and pets.

MEDICATION INTERACTIONS

You will receive IV antibiotics at the time of catheter placement. Your Nura doctor will determine if daily oral antibiotics are necessary while your catheter is in place.

INSURANCE AND BILLING

Your eligibility for this procedure is contingent upon the benefits outlined by your insurance provider.

IMPROVE YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Epidural catheters are highly effective at providing significant pain relief while allowing you to remain alert and conscious.

