Central Venous Port

## 1 Chemotherapy Administration

Most chemotherapy is administered by vein.

Several options exist to administer chemotherapy:

* Intravenous catheter in peripheral veins
* Peripheral Intravenous Central Catheter (PICC)
* Central Venous port

## 2 Intravenous Catheter in Peripheral Vein (“IV”)

* IV catheter placed in vein of hand or arm
* Allows administration of chemo and fluids
* Placed for each dose
* Removed that day
* Not suitable for FLOT chemo

A peripheral IV catheter involves placing a small tube into the veins, which is then used to give fluids or chemotherapy

A new catheter is placed for each dose of chemotherapy

FLOT chemotherapy requires a home infusion pump, got which a peripheral IV won’t work

## 3 PICC Lines

* Placed in Radiology
* Stay in place during all of treatment
* Needs to be kept clean and dry
* Suitable for FLOT chemotherapy

A PICC line is placed in Radiology and stays in place during the treatment course Special care is needed at home to keep the catheter and it’s dressing clean and dry

## 4 Central Venous Port

* Implantable device makes chemo easier
* May shower in 24 hrs
* No special care at home
* OK for FLOT chemo
* Allows for blood draws

A central venous port is an implantable device that makes the administration of chemotherapy easier.

Once it is in place, it requires no special care at home

With a port, you can shower, bathe, and swim without restriction

A central venous port is suitable for FLOT chemotherapy

A port can be used for blood draws for blood tests as well.

## 5 Central Venous Port

* Implanted under the skin
* Neck incision (1/4”)
* Incision below the collarbone
* Sutures dissolve
* “Superglue” on incisions

A port is placed underneath the skin and usually below the right collarbone.

Two incisions are made for placement: a quarter-inch incision over the neck, and a one-inch incision below the collarbone.

Sutures are under the skin and dissolve on their own

Surgical “Super Glue” covers the incisions and flakes off after a week or so

## 6 Central Venous Port

When it is time for chemotherapy, a needle is inserted through the skin into the port

When it comes time for chemotherapy, the nurses can easily access the port with a needle that goes through the skin into the port, rather than placing an intravenous needle in a vein. The drugs can then be administered directly into the bloodstream. If blood needs to be drawn for tests, this can also be done through the port.