

Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) – Pressure Bag for IV Administration/Blood Products

Site Applicability

SPH and MSJ Acute Care Units

Practice Level

Registered Nurses

Need to Know

1. Peripherally inserted central catheters (PICCs) with a valve (distal or proximal) may cause issues with flow for IV fluid administration and blood product transfusion. The BioFlo™ with PASV™ PICC has a proximal valve that requires more pressure to open with flushing and during infusion. The Groshong™ PICC has a distal valve that may also cause flow restrictions.
2. Use of a “pressure bag” may be required in order to infuse IV fluids quickly or transfuse blood products in a timely manner (ie. within 4 hours) through a PICC **via gravity**. The pressure bag method is not applicable when administering blood products using the electronic infusion pump (i.e. Alaris™).
3. The pressure bag in use at PHC is the Infusable® / InfusaScan™ Pressure Infusors. This can be used for PICCs when administering IV fluids and transfusing blood products by gravity.
4. **Do not exceed 300 mmHG** of pressure when inflating using the bulb. The pressure gauge is attached to the pressure bag. For blood products and PICCs, the usual amount of pressure (mmHg) required is **less than 150 mmHg** (at the “first line” mark).
5. Infusable® / InfusaScan™ Pressure Infusors (pressure bags) are labeled for single-patient-use only. The user must ensure the pressure bag is not damaged or contaminated between usages on the **same patient**. Reuse may cause risk for cross-contamination, affect the measurement accuracy, system performance or cause a malfunction as a result of the product being physically damaged due to cleaning, disinfection, re-sterilization or reuse.
6. The Infusable® / InfusaScan™ Pressure Infusors product is latex free.

Equipment and Supplies

- Infusable® / Infusascan™ Pressure Infusors
(Pressure bag (“Infusable® / InfusaScan™ Pressure Infusors) – PS# 00003348)
- IV Solution or blood product

Procedure

Steps	Rationale
1. Gather supplies and prepare work area. Wash hands. Put on non-sterile gloves.	
2. Ensure solution or blood product has been checked according to appropriate protocol or procedure and insert bag between clear netting or clear window and air bladder.	
3. There will be 2 ways to hang the pressure bag and the IV bag / blood product. Use the loop to hang the pressure infusor bag to the IV pole PLUS hang the IV bag / blood product bag onto the IV pole.	If you do not hang both of these, the IV bag/blood product bag will “fall out” once it empties due to the pressure.
4. Turn stopcock handle marked “OFF” to point toward the open stopcock vent.	
5. Pump inflation bulb until the pressure gauge indicates the desired pressure. For blood products, usually “3 to 4 hand pumps” is required. Do NOT over inflate. Watch IV fluid/blood flow in IV tubing chamber for desired flow.	To obtain a leak proof seal, turn the stopcock handle marked “OFF” toward the infusor bag. Flow rate is still determined by the drip rate seen in the fluid chamber.
6. Proceed with infusion as per appropriate protocols and/or policies for the product, solution or medication being administered.	
7. To deflate pressure bag at end of IV infusion/transfusion, turn stopcock handle marked “OFF” toward the inflation bulb.	
8. Dispose of the IV solution or blood product once completed as per protocol and store/keep pressure infusor bag as required – single-patient use only.	Can reuse pressure infusor bag for multiple infusions/blood products for same patient . Ensure bag is clean prior to use.

Documentation

Document use of pressure bag in iView with the documentation of the infusion product

Related Documents

1. [BD-00-12-40054](#) - CVC: Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) – Basic Care and Maintenance (Adult).
2. [B-00-12-10065](#) – Blood/Blood Product Administration

References

1. Gorski LA, Hadaway L, Hagle ME, et al. (2021). Infusion therapy standards of practice. .Journal of Infusion Nursing. 44(suppl 1):S1-S224. doi:10.1097/NAN.000000000000396CSA Group. CAN/CSA-Z902-20 Blood and Blood Components. Published in Canada by CSA, 2020.Mississauga, Ontario: Canadian Standards Association.
2. CSTM Standards Committee. Standards for Hospital Transfusion Services, Version 4. Published in Markham, Canada by Canadian Society for Transfusion Medicine, 2017.

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