



New England  
Life Care

Home Infusion Therapy Services

**Multiple Doses of One IV Medication  
Using  
Gravity Administration (11/09)**

1. Gather supplies in a clean, well-lit area:
  - Medication bag
  - Tubing set
  - 2 Normal Saline syringes
  - 1 Heparin syringe
  - Alcohol wipes
  - Sterile cover
2. Check **medication label** for correct patient name, medication and expiration date.
3. **Wash hands**
4. Mix medication if indicated (see additional instructions). You may need additional supplies
5. Open tubing package:
  - Tear off paper tape
  - Move Roller Clamp half way down tubing and roll tightly to close
6. Attach tubing to medication bag:
  - Pull rubber cover off port on medication bag
  - Remove plastic cover from spiked end of tubing
  - Push spiked end of tubing into medication bag port
7. Prime medication tubing:
  - Squeeze and release tubing drip chamber until it is half full of fluid
  - Slowly open Roller Clamp to allow fluid to flow through the tubing
  - Keep protective cover on end of tubing in place
  - Close Roller Clamp quickly once fluid appears at the end of the tubing
  - Drape the tubing over the IV pole
8. Flush IV catheter with Normal **Saline**: **S**
  - Remove syringe from wrapper
  - Hold syringe upright and push on plunger to break seal
  - Remove protective cover from syringe
  - Do not contaminate tip
  - Hold syringe upright and gently push on plunger to expel air
  - Scrub IV end cap with an alcohol wipe for 15 seconds
  - Push and screw syringe into IV end cap
  - Gently flush solution through IV catheter
  - Remove syringe from IV end cap and discard

9. Administer Medication:

**A**

- Scrub IV end cap with alcohol
- Remove protective cover from the end of medication bag tubing
- Push and screw tubing into IV end cap
- Open roller clamp to allow for a 'drip rate' of \_\_\_\_drip/\_\_\_\_seconds
- Infusion will take \_\_\_\_\_ minutes to complete

10. When medication stops dripping and bag is empty, infusion is complete

- Close Roller Clamp completely
- Unscrew medication tubing from IV end cap
- Since you are receiving more than one dose of this medication today, apply a sterile cover to the end of the tubing now. Put tubing aside for next dose.***
- Tubing must be changed every 24 hours.***

11. Flush IV catheter with Normal Saline:

**S**

- Remove syringe from wrapper
- Hold syringe upright and push on plunger to break seal
- Remove protective cover from syringe
- Do not contaminate tip
- Hold syringe upright and gently push on plunger to expel air
- Scrub IV end cap with an alcohol wipe for 15 seconds
- Push and screw syringe into IV end cap
- Gently flush solution through IV catheter
- Remove syringe from IV end cap and discard

12. Flush IV catheter with Heparin:

**H**

- Remove syringe from wrapper
- Hold syringe upright and push on plunger to break seal
- Remove protective cover from syringe
- Do not contaminate tip
- Hold syringe upright and gently push on plunger to expel air
- Scrub IV end cap with an alcohol wipe for 15 seconds
- Push and screw syringe into IV end cap
- Gently flush solution through IV catheter
- Remove syringe from IV end cap and discard

**THINGS TO REMEMBER:**

***Remember: once you scrub the IV end cap, be sure that this remains sterile until you enter the cap with flush syringe or medication tubing.***

***Remember: the tips of flush syringes and medication tubing are sterile under the protective covers. Do not contaminate the ends prior to insertion into the IV end cap.***

***Remember: medication tubing is used for 24 hours. Replace daily.***

***See attached Vial & Syringe Instructions if you are adding a medication from a vial.***

If you have an additional lumen (tail) on your IV catheter, flush this lumen daily with 3 mls of heparin

Check your IV site and temperature daily. If IV dressing is not intact or if you develop a fever, call your home care nurse.

Medication should be stored as directed.