

Midline Catheters

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Purpose

To guide staff in safe management of the Midline Catheter

Scope

Level one certificated staff (exclusions EN's and IV Technicians)

Associated documents

CDHB Fluid and Medication Management Manual

Definition

A peripheral catheter which is between 7.5cm and 20cm in length. Midline catheters are not centrally placed so are therefore not treated as Central Venous Access Devices. They will be differentiated from peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) with the addition of an orange midline catheter label.

Criteria

- For the infusion of isotonic or near isotonic solutions that are required for longer than 4 days and up to 1-4 weeks

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- Level 1 certification is required to manage Midline catheters (i.e. Level two certification is not required)
- Midline catheters must be labelled with a new orange midline label at dressing change. Radiology will supply additional labels for areas use

Insertion

Midline catheters are inserted in radiology Department by the PICC nurse Inserter team

Contraindications

- Therapies not appropriate include continuous vesicant chemotherapy, parenteral nutrition medications /solutions with pH less than 5 or greater than 9
- Must not be used for blood sampling
- Tourniquets or blood pressure cuffs must not be used on the arm where the Midline is indwelling

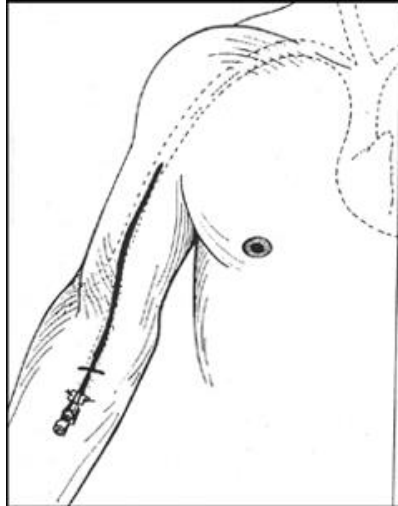
Maintenance

- Positive displacement devices **must be used** to maintain patency
- Midlines must be flushed at least once per shift with a pre-filled 0.9% Sodium Chloride 10 mL syringe
- Phlebitis scoring will be performed on each occasion prior to accessing the midline catheter
- Phlebitis scoring and documentation is required as per peripheral cannulae
- Midline catheters dressing requirements are as per the PICC dressing procedure

Removal

- Removal is determined by the patient's condition, completion of change in therapy, presence of inflammatory process or catheter dysfunction
- A Midline catheter must be removed if the tip location is no longer appropriate for the prescribed therapy
- Where the patient reports discomfort or pain related to the midline then removal must be considered

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Measurement/Evaluation

Canterbury and West Coast IV Clinical Practice Observation Audits -
Peripheral IV audits

References

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- Infusion Nurses Society. (2010). Infusion Nursing: An Evidence – Based Approach. 3rd Edition. Saunders: Massachusetts, USA
- RNAO - Royal Nursing Association of Ottawa International Affairs and best practice Guidelines
- Centres for Disease Control. (2011). Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report*, 51(RR10):1-32.
- Anderson, NR 'Midline Catheters': The Middle ground of Intravenous Therapy Administration: *J Infec Nurs* 27,no.5(2004):313-21

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