

SAMPLE POLICY

Policy and Procedure Catheter Removal for PICC Line and Midline Catheters

Policy:

A physician order is required to remove a PICC Line. (Midline catheters being a peripheral catheter are removed when there is evidence of peripheral complications or the end of infusion therapy.

A PICC Line or Midline catheter can be removed by a qualified Registered Nurse who has successfully completed competency in removal and understands emergency and complication management.

Supplies:

Sterile 4 x 4
Tape
Gloves
Antibiotic Ointment

Procedure:

1. Review patient's chart for any contraindications to removing the patient's PICC or Midline catheter
2. Obtain physician order for PICC Line removal only
3. Explain procedure to patient and obtain informed consent
4. Remove dressing and discard
5. Assess insertion site
6. Grasp catheter near insertion site and remove slowly. Do not use excessive force
7. Use a gentle steady motion to prevent catheter damage going back to insertion site each time.
8. If resistance is felt, stop removal. Apply warm compresses and wait 20-30 minutes
9. Resume removal process. Should the catheter embolize during the removal process, tie a tourniquet around the upper arm and immediately contact a physician regarding this emergency situation
10. If catheter continues to resist removal notify physician

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11. After removal, apply pressure to site and 4 x 4 gauze until bleeding stops.
12. Place sterile 4 x 4 gauze dressing on site
13. Examine catheter tip for any indication of incomplete removal. Compare measurement taken out to insertion measurement. Notify physician immediately if there is a problem
14. Document procedure in patient's chart