



# My PICC WON'T FLUSH

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801.809.6522

Steps to troubleshooting

By:

Nursing Services Inc.

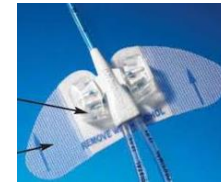
# The rules..

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- **Use 10 cc syringes only**
- **DO NOT FORCE OR PUMP to open the line**
- **DO NOT USE HEPARIN**
- **All manipulation of the undressed PICC site is sterile**
- **Call the PICC team if you have any questions during this process**
- **801.809.6522**

# Equipment Needed

- Saline syringes
- New Injection cap
- New Stat Lock or securing device
- Dressing change kit
- Possibly a suture removal kit



# Step 1

- Position the PICC arm in a neutral position.
- Inspect the PICC site
  - Are the clamps all open?
  - If not, open the clamps and attempt to flush
  - If yes, they are open, check further, next slide

# Step 2

- Can you see blood in the PICC tubing?
  - If yes, stop and call the PICC team
  - **801 809 6522**
  - If no, check further, next slide

# Step 3

- Remove the injection cap and attempt to flush with saline syringe directly on the end of the PICC. Can you flush?
  - If yes, the cap was defective. Replace with a new injection cap and flush.
  - If no, leave the saline syringe attached to the PICC and check further, next slide

# Step 4

- Remove the dressing. Do you see any kinks with the dressing removed?
  - If yes, straighten the kink. Can you flush?
  - If yes, perform a sterile dressing change and flush the line
  - If no, don't replace the dressing yet. Check further, next slide

# Step 5

- With the dressing removed, and sterile gloves on, palpate the site of insertion. Do you feel a kink or bump under the skin?
  - If yes, remove the stat lock or the sutures (call the PICC nurse here before removing sutures) and pull the catheter out about 1 to 2 cm. Can you flush?
  - If yes, apply a new stat lock, perform a sterile dressing change and flush the line
  - If no, check further, next slide



# Step 6

- You have done everything that can be done and the line most likely needs to be de-clotted.
- **Call the PICC team. 801.809.6522**
  - Replace the sterile dressing and secure the PICC to the arm using coban or tape.