Instructions for IV Medicine Ball

Elastomeric Device

For every infusion

1. Clean the table top with soap and water, alcohol or bleach wipes. Let it air dry.

2. Wash your hands for at least 15 seconds with liquid soap and water or hand foam.

3. Gather these supplies:
   - Alcohol pads
   - Medicine ball—Check the label for correct drug name, dose, and discard date. The medicine should look clear, without floating specks (particles). If you see particles in the medicine, use another medicine ball and let your nurse know.
   - Two (2) syringes of saline solution (0.9% sodium chloride)
   - One (1) syringe of heparin or citrate (if you were told to use this)

If you need help preparing the syringes, see the info sheet called “Flushing the Line with Heparin, Saline or Citrate.”

4. Use a fresh alcohol pad to scrub the end cap on your IV line. Scrub for 15 seconds and let it air dry.

5. Take the cap off a syringe of saline solution. Twist the syringe into the end cap of your IV line. If there is a clamp on the line, open it.

6. “Pulse flush” your IV line with the saline, using a push-pause motion. Do this until the syringe is empty. Then hold the end cap and twist off the syringe.

7. Use a fresh alcohol pad to scrub the end cap on your IV line. Scrub for 15 seconds and let air dry.

8. Twist the protective cover off the tubing that connects to the medicine ball. Don’t let the open end of the tubing touch anything. If it does, start over with a new medicine ball.

9. Open the clamp on the medicine ball until the medicine reaches the end of the tubing. Close the clamp.

10. Twist the tubing into the end cap on your IV line until it’s secure.

11. Open the clamp on the medicine ball. If you have a clamp on the IV line, make sure it is open, too.

The empty ball looks like a balloon without air, and the center feels hard.
Your infusion should be done in about _______ minutes, or when the ball is empty.

After every infusion

1. Wash your hands for at least 15 seconds with liquid soap and water or hand foam.
2. Close the clamp on the medicine ball.
3. To remove the tubing from your IV line, hold the end cap and twist off the tubing. Always make sure the end cap stays attached to your IV line.
4. Use a fresh alcohol pad to scrub the end cap on your IV line. Scrub for 15 seconds and let air dry.
5. Twist the other syringe of saline solution into the end of your IV line. “Pulse flush” the line until the syringe is empty. **Skip Step 6 if you will use heparin or citrate.**

6. **If you do not use heparin or citrate:** Before removing the empty syringe, close the clamp if you have one. Then hold the end cap and twist off the syringe. **Go to Step 8.**

7. **If you were told to use heparin or citrate:**
   - Remove the empty saline syringe.
   - Scrub the end cap on your IV line for 15 seconds with a fresh alcohol pad and let it air dry.
   - Twist the syringe of heparin or citrate into the end of your IV line.
   - “Pulse flush” your IV line with the syringe of heparin or citrate.
   - Before removing the empty syringe, close the clamp if you have one. Then hold the end cap and twist off the syringe.

8. Throw your used supplies into the household trash, unless we tell you not to.

Getting ready for your next infusion

When you get new medicine, check to see if you need to keep it in the refrigerator. If you do, take the next dose out up to 12 hours before you plan to infuse. This will let the medicine warm up before you use it. Go ahead and do this unless the label on the medicine says something different, or your nurse tells you otherwise.

- **If you don't** let the solution warm up, your infusion time may be longer.
- **If you forget** to take your medicine ball out of the refrigerator, it is still OK to infuse. **Do not change your scheduled dosing times.**

Do not heat the medicine ball in a microwave oven, direct sunlight, hot water or any other heat source. Heating can damage the device or the drug. If that happens, they may not work the way they should.

**Don't** use the medicine ball while bathing or showering.

If you have any problems please call ____________________.

Always remember to:

1. Wash your hands before touching supplies.
2. “Scrub the hub”—Clean the end cap on your IV line for 15 seconds and let it dry before connecting to it.
3. Use a new medicine ball if you touch the end of the tubing.