

Changing Your Bandage

Tunneled Central Catheter Care at Home

1. Clean the table top with a home cleaner and water, alcohol or bleach wipes. Let it air dry.
 2. Wash your hands for 15 seconds with liquid soap and water and dry them well. Or, use hand foam.
 3. Gather supplies: Bandage change kit **or**
 - Transparent or gauze bandage
 - Anti-germ scrubber (ChloroPrep)
 - Anti-germ patch (BioPatch)
 - Securing device or tape
 - Mask
 4. Open your bandage change kit. Or open the wrappers of your supplies, but leave items in the wrappers.
 5. Caregiver should wear a mask when changing the bandage for at least the first 3 weeks. Your health care team may suggest that you always wear your mask.
 6. The patient should turn their head away during the bandage change and wear a mask if able.
 7. If you have a kit, spread the paper cloth on the table and place your supplies on it. If you do not have a kit, take each item from the wrapper as you use it.
 8. Remove the old bandage, the patch and the securing device if present and throw them away.
 9. Wash your hands again and put on clean gloves. Look where the line enters the skin for signs of infection: redness, puffiness, or drainage. If you see any of these signs, or the patient reports new soreness, call your health care team.
 10. Hold the ChloroPrep wand with the sponge pointing down and facing the skin. Pinch the wings of the scrubber to make it work. Using a back and forth motion, clean the skin that was under the bandage for 30 seconds. This area should include at least 2 inches around where the line enters the skin. Do not touch the sponge with your fingers.
 11. Allow the area to air dry. This may take a full minute. Do not fan or blow on the area.
 12. Put on the BioPatch disc (slit facing down, print facing out). If you have a securing device, put it on.
 13. Put on the bandage.

Change a **clear bandage** every 7 days. Change a **gauze bandage** every other day. Also, change the bandage when it's loose, wet or dirty.

Protect the line during showers and bathing.
 - Put Aquagard or other plastic wrap over the bandage and catheter to keep it dry.
 - Do not soak the area in a bath or shower or point the shower spray at the line.
- If you have any problems, please call:
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