

IV Flush Using the SASH Method

Follow these steps to help ensure your IV remains open:

1. Supplies needed:
 - Medicine
 - 2 pre-filled saline syringes (sodium chloride)
 - 1 pre-filled heparin syringe (if needed)
 - Antiseptic wipes
 - Provided gloves
2. Always check the medicine label for the following:
 - Correct patient name
 - Correct medicine and dose
 - Expiration date
 - Make sure the solution is clear and not cloudy
3. Prepare a clean work area.
4. Wash your hands using soap. Make sure to wash top and bottom, under nails and between fingers. Use a paper towel or clean (unused) hand towel to dry your hands. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
5. Put on provided gloves.
6. **(S) Saline flush**
 - Remove the cap from the **saline** syringe (0.9% sodium chloride). Do not touch the inside of the cap or the syringe tip to any surface.
 - Remove any air from the syringe.
 - Hold the syringe so the open tip points to the ceiling and gently pull back on the plunger.
 - Then push in the plunger until a drop of liquid appears at the open tip of the syringe.
 - Do not touch the tip of the syringe to non-sterile surfaces. The tip is sterile.
 - Use a new antiseptic wipe to scrub the injection cap on the end of your IV line for 30 seconds. Let this air dry. Do not fan or blow air on the injection cap.
 - Open the clamp on the IV catheter and or extension set.
 - Attach the saline syringe to the injection cap. Do this by pushing the syringe and twisting it clockwise onto the injection cap until secure.
 - Push the syringe plunger to flush the catheter with the amount of saline ordered.
 - Remove the empty syringe from the injection cap.



7. **(A) Administer** the medicine as directed.
8. **(S) Saline** repeat the steps above for saline flush. If this is your last step:
 - Remove the empty syringe from the injection cap.
 - Clamp the catheter and or injection cap.
 - Throw all used syringes in the household trash.
9. **(H) Heparin** flush, if ordered.
 - Remove the cap from the heparin syringe. Do not touch the inside of the cap or the syringe tip to any surface.
 - Remove any air from the syringe.
 - Hold the syringe so the open tip points to the ceiling and gently pull back on the plunger.
 - Push in the plunger until a drop of liquid appears at the open tip of the syringe.
 - Do not touch the tip of the syringe to non-sterile surfaces. The tip is sterile.
 - Use a new antiseptic wipe to scrub the injection cap on the end of your IV line for 30 seconds. Let this air dry, do not fan or blow air on the injection cap.
 - Attach the heparin syringe to the injection cap. Do this by pushing the syringe and twisting it clockwise onto the injection cap until secure.
 - Push the syringe plunger to flush the catheter with the amount of heparin ordered.
 - Remove the empty syringe from the injection cap.
 - Clamp the catheter and extension tubing.
 - Throw all used syringes in the household trash

Contact the home infusion nurse right away if any of the following signs occur.

- Pain at IV site
- Redness at IV site
- Swelling or hardness around IV site
- Heat or coldness at IV site
- Leaking or drainage around IV site or dressing
- Difficulty flushing the IV catheter

For questions or concerns, please call Bronson at Home Infusion Services at 269-341-7373 or 888-255-4953