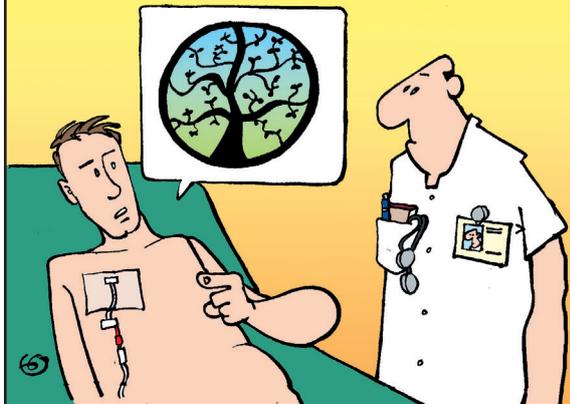


Safe central venous catheter (CVC) care for people receiving home TPN and/or (re)hydration fluids

1

Point out that your central venous catheter (CVC) is your lifeline



2

Make sure your healthcare provider knows that hand hygiene is vital when looking after your central venous catheter (CVC)



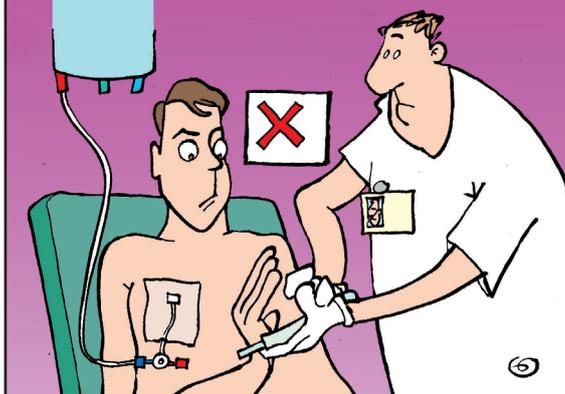
3

Always follow instructions and protocols accurately to the safe care of your central venous catheter (CVC)



4

Insist that your central venous catheter (CVC) is only used for TPN or (re)hydration fluids



5

Notify your healthcare provider immediately if you have a fever



6

Do not hesitate to contact your healthcare provider if you are unsure about anything



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Inform your healthcare provider why TPN and/or (re)hydration fluids is/are administered through your central venous catheter (CVC). For example, if you have serious intestinal failure meaning that you cannot absorb enough nutrition to meet your nutritional needs and prevent from malnutrition and/or dehydration. In case of acting wrongly and/or unhygienic, the nutrition/fluid supply is at a serious risk.



There is a serious risk of infecting your TPN and/or (re)hydration fluids if handling protocols are not followed closely. Your health care providers are aware of these hygiene protocols which are specifically designed to reduce the risk of bacterial contamination. If you notice that somebody:

- Does not follow correct hand hygiene (washing hands and drying with a paper towel or rubbing hands for 30 seconds with hand alcohol);
- Is wearing jewellery;
- Does not perform the correct wound care;

... then you must tell this person immediately about your concerns.



Always use sterile techniques when handling the connectors on the catheter. Once the CVC is disconnected, spray it through with saline (NaCl 0,9%) and then close it preferably with Taurosept®. Inspect the insertion site and the area around the CVC on a daily basis. If you notice anything unusual, for instance leakage, then contact your intestinal failure centre immediately.



Your CVC must only be used for TPN- and/or (re) hydration fluids and not for taking blood or administering medications. The risk of infection is increased if the CVC is misused. This also applies to withdrawing blood before starting TPN. Withdrawing blood from the CVC is only necessary when a blood culture is needed. Adding side connectors also increases the risk of infection, so use a Y- connector for this. Talk to your healthcare provider if you are concerned that there may be a problem.



The CVC can be infected if you have a fever or cold shivers and a temperature of 38.5 degrees or higher. Blood will have to be taken from the CVC and also from your arm so that cultures may be grown. You should start with antibiotics immediately in consultation with your own intestinal failure centre. It is important to note that the CVC does not have to be removed if there is an infection which can be effectively treated with antibiotics.



Make sure your healthcare provider knows if anything is not clear to you or if you have any questions. It is also important to report anything that you think is not supposed to happen. You must point out when your healthcare providers do not follow correct hand care and other hygiene procedures or if they work differently from the procedures which you have been taught. This is in your own interest because, as you know, a very high standard of hygiene is a vital part of your care.

This patient safety card gives people receiving TPN and/ or (re)hydration fluids specific information about how to take care of their intravenous catheter safely, and how to liaise with their healthcare provider appropriately. This patient safety card has been devised in discussion with the Crohn en Colitis Ulcerosa Vereniging Nederland (CCUVN), Academisch Medisch Centrum (AMC) in Amsterdam and Radboudumc in Nijmegen.