

PICC LINE HOME CARE

YOUR CARE AT HOME

- DO NOT take a bath in a bathtub. Cover the insertion site with clear plastic wrap and tape to keep it dry before showering.
- No swimming. No hot tubs.
- Avoid a lot of arm movement and coughing. Avoid lifting weight. Check with your doctor about activity limitations with your PICC line.
- Your arm may be tender and a little uncomfortable for 1–2 days. Rest your arm for one day after the insertion.
- It is normal to see a small amount of blood leaking from the insertion site the day after the procedure. There may also be some bruising.
- When you are home, your PICC line is cared for by a nurse from a home care agency, your doctor's office or an infusion center. You can also learn to take care of the line yourself.
- Your PICC line will require flushing. Please check with your Medical Oncologist to determine the frequency in your case.
- Your PICC line will require regular flushing/irrigation maintenance. It will also require dressing care on a regular basis.

CALL YOUR HEALTH CARE PROVIDER IMMEDIATELY IF YOU HAVE:

- Pain
- Fever
- A large amount of bright red bleeding (soaking the dressing with blood)
- Warmth, redness, or swelling along the arm or PICC line insertion site
- A tear or break in the PICC line catheter or tubing
- The IV pump continues to alarm, even after flushing the catheter
- Any leakage of IV fluid from around the PICC line insertion site