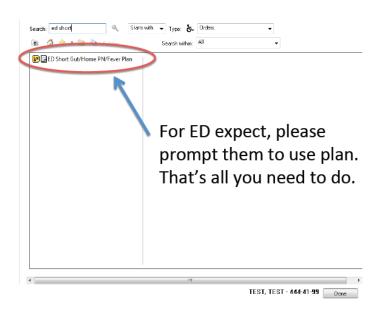
Boston Children's Hospital Home Parenteral Nutrition Handbook for For On-Call Emergencies On behalf of the Home Parenteral Nutrition staff and patients, thank you for agreeing to take urgent off-hour calls. We hope you will find this brief handbook helpful when handling off-hour complaints. As it is impossible to cover every urgent issue, your clinical judgment is indispensable. In case of emergency, consider sending patient to the closest emergency department. You might suggest transfer to Boston Children's Hospital once patient is stabilized. If you are not sure what to do, do not be afraid to ask. Thanks again. – Home PN team

What if patient has a fever?

- Refer patient to the emergency department. Do not reassure family over the phone. For red flag symptoms, tell them to dial 911 (altered mental status, chills, seizures). Tell family to anticipate admission for at least 48 hours.
- Call in Expect to ED saying that patient who is "central line dependent coming into ED".
 - If going to BCH, tell operator to use "ED Short Gut/Home PN/Fever plan" (see image below), request someone to personally call you back to close loop on plan once patient has been seen. Consider notifying surgery on-call if concerning story.
 - If going another ED, recommend: CBC with diff, Chem 18, CRP, blood cultures from CVC and peripheral. If history of UTI, UA and urine culture.
 - Empiric antibiotics: Vanco/Zosyn. Use linezolid for Vanco allergy.
 Use meropenem for Zosyn allergy.



What if a blood culture drawn in the outpatient setting turns positive while patient is at home?

- Refer patient to emergency department. Tell family to anticipate admission for at least 48 hours and maybe longer if repeat blood cultures are positive.
- Call in Expect
- Ask for repeat blood cultures prior to initiation of antibiotics
- If CAIR patient, notify surgeon on-call.
- FYI: Patient should always be observed for first dose of IV antibiotics.

What if another team has prescribed a patient antibiotics for non-CVC related infection (eg. acute otitis media, pneumonia, urinary tract infection)?

- Ideally patient has been seen by a medical provider.
- If fever present, request blood culture from CVC prior to starting antibiotics.
- Hold IV iron.
- Low threshold for admission for observation.

What if catheter (PICC Broviac) pulled out a bit?

- Check X-ray for tip placement.

What if the cuff is exposed?

- Refer to ED.
- Consult surgery
- Needs central line replacement.

What if PN bag damaged/leaking?

- Dispose of PN bag, use new bag. May need to re-set PN pump.
- Family should notify home infusion company.

What if there is unilateral swelling?

- Dependent edema?
- Check fluoroscopic catheter study (injection of contrast into CVC) for fibrin sheath.
- Consider upper extremity Doppler study for thrombus.

What if the patient has headaches or pain with PN flushing?

- Check X-ray for tip placement.
- Check line study for fibrin sheath or thrombus.
- FYI: Differential diagnosis includes catheter malposition, thrombus, cathter fracture.

What if I cannot draw back ethanol lock?

- Can you flush the line? (If you cannot flush line, see instructions below)
- Flush slowly with 10 ml normal saline (NOT heparin).
- If recurs, then have patient seen in clinic for tPA.
- Check X-ray for tip placement.
- Check fluoroscopic catheter study for fibrin sheath.

- Consider upper extremity Doppler study for thrombus.

What if I cannot flush my catheter?

- Make sure catheter is unclamped.
- Change cap in typical sterile fashion, then flush catheter with saline.
- Check to ensure the catheter is not kinked
- If above are not successful, refer patient to emergency department or urgent clinic visit for tPA

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What if cap breaks?

- Change cap in typical sterile fashion, then flush catheter with saline.

What if CVC dressing gets wet/soiled?

- As soon as possible, change the CVC dressing in typical sterile fashion.

What if CVC dressing is no longer occlusive?

- As soon as possible, change the CVC dressing in typical sterile fashion.

What if the Y-connector breaks?

- Clamp catheter, disconnect Y-connector, use a new Y-connector.

What if there is concern for cellulitis at CVC exit site?

- Evaluation in HPN clinic or emergency department within 12 hours.
- Consider surgical evaluation to remove suture.
- Check blood culture.
- If there are any concerning symptoms, admit for IV antibiotics. Otherwise may treat as outpatient (ceftriaxone).

What if CVC catheter breaks?

- Clamp the catheter proximal to break using atraumatic clamps (example: blue smooth tooth clamps, Kelly clamps), which should be universally provided by home infusion companies.
- Refer patient to emergency department
- Call in Expect. Tell family to anticipate waiting for new IV access.
- FYI: PICC cannot be repaired. It will need to be replaced.

What if catheter bubbles?

- May monitor- advise to flush slowly to avoid fracture
- Home PN team may discuss with surgery re: elective repair/replacement
- FYI: internal wall of catheter broken, leading to aneurysm.

What if the needle gets dislodged from Port?

- As soon as possible, clean area, re-access Port-a-Cath with new needle, flush with heparin. (If unable to access Port-a-Cath, see instructions below)

What if patient cannot access Port-a-Cath?

- Ask patient about any swelling, trauma to area.
- Refer to emergency department.
- Consider X-ray for port migration.

What if Port-a-Cath will flush, but won't draw back?

- First flush with 10 ml normal saline.
- Try to draw back.
- If that doesn't work, de-access and re-access Port-a-Cath.
- Try to draw back.
- If unsuccessful, instill tPA for 2 hours and re-try.

What if CVC tubing breaks?

- Clamp catheter, replace with new tubing.
- Family should notify home infusion company.

What if there is blood inside the catheter?

- Flush with saline, then flush with heparin or connect to tubing.
- Check closely for catheter fracture
- Is there a back check valve in place (<1 year-old)
- If this is first time going home, perhaps infusion rate is not high enough.

What if there is stool contamination to the catheter/tubing?

- Stool Contamination to CVC
- Gather the following supplies: Saline Flushes, Heparin flush (if needed) Gauze, Multiple Alcohol Pads, sterile gloves, masks, and a new CVC cap
- Place gauze or towel under CVC and positive pressure cap. Do not disconnect any connected IVF/PN
- Use a 10ml Saline Flush to gently clean the exterior portion of CVC to remove visible stool
- Scrub CVC connection with alcohol protected by 2x2 gauze for at least 30 seconds. Repeat x1. If the alcohol has stool on it, discard and start with a new set up.
- Set up,3-4 alcohol pads on 3-4 sterile 2x2 gauze
- Normal Saline flush
- CVC cap (prime with Normal Saline leave flush attached)
- Heparin Flush
- Mask
- Put on sterile gloves
- Again scrub the CVC/ positive pressure cap junction for 30 seconds
- Remove CVC cap
- Scrub threads of CVC for at least 30 seconds
- Connect new cap
- Flush CVC

Page 5 of 8

- If there was a fluid running, discard current fluid and use a new bag
- If there was not fluid running heparin flush the catheter
- Watch patient closely for 24-48 hours for fever, lethargy, concerning clinical changes. Present to the ED immediately.

What if patient admitted to BCH for r/o sepsis?

- If patient is hemodynamically unstable, do not use CVC for parenteral nutrition.
- If blood culture positive for bacteria, okay to run PN through CVC as long as hemodynamically stable.
- If blood culture is positive for yeast, consider holding PN unless heroic measures for catheter salvage used.
- If admitted after 1 pm, encourage family to bring HPN bag from home. HPN bag must be sent to pharmacy to verify mixture matches most recent prescription and to affix bar code. Floor nurses are not responsible for additions (eg. H2 blocker, MVI). The family is responsible for additions to the HPN bag from home.

What if patient admitted to another hospital?

- Provide a copy of electronic HPN prescription.
- Patient should use home supply of Omegaven.
- Encourage team to communicate with HPN team during business hours.
- Request copy of discharge summary, operative reports, laboratory studies.

What if IV lipids is run on wrong pump, and there is a rapid IV lipids infusion?

- Refer patient to emergency department
- Call in Expect
- Request the following labs: liver panel, triglycerides, electrolytes at baseline. For patients receiving Omegaven, triglyceride level should be checked four hours after rapid infusion.
- If patient receiving Omegaven, send email to Alexis Potemkin, OM study nurse coordinator

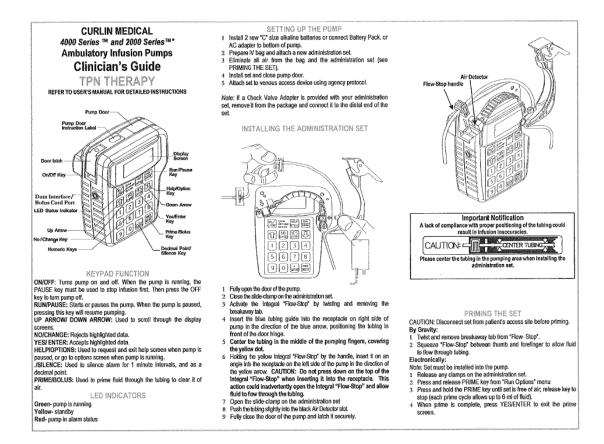
What if there is air in the line?

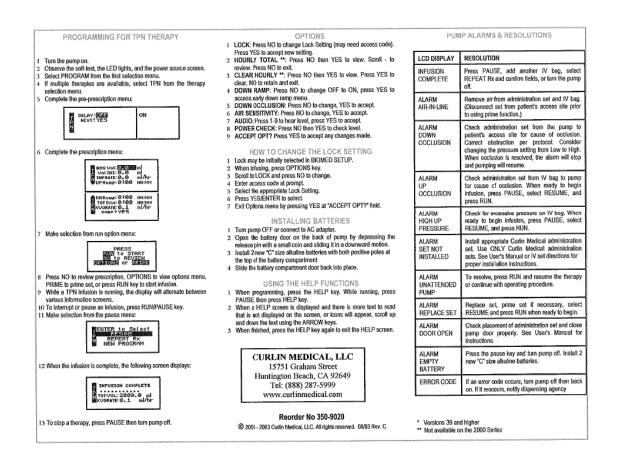
- 1. Pause infusion. (hit "pause")
- 2. Disconnect tubing
- 3. Re-prime tubing (hit "prime")
- 4. Resume infusion (hit resume)
- 5. Reconnect tubing.
- 6. If above does not work, see below.
- 7. Switch to a back-up pump (problem with air sensor).
- 8. Inform HPN team, who will inform home infusion company (potentially a manufacturing problem with tubing).

What is pump alerts occlusion?

1. "Upward occlusion?" (between PN bag and pump)

- a. Check to see if tubing is pinched by door of pump
- b. Check to see if bag is tipped, so spike not underneath fluid
- 2. "Downward occlusion?" (between pump and patient)
 - a. Check to see clamp closed
 - b. Check to see if there is anything in the way of tubing
 - c. Disconnect tubing from CVC, check to make sure catheter flushes OK. (If not flushing, see above "What if I cannot flush my catheter?")





Any questions? Call Bram Raphael cell 914-584-6239