

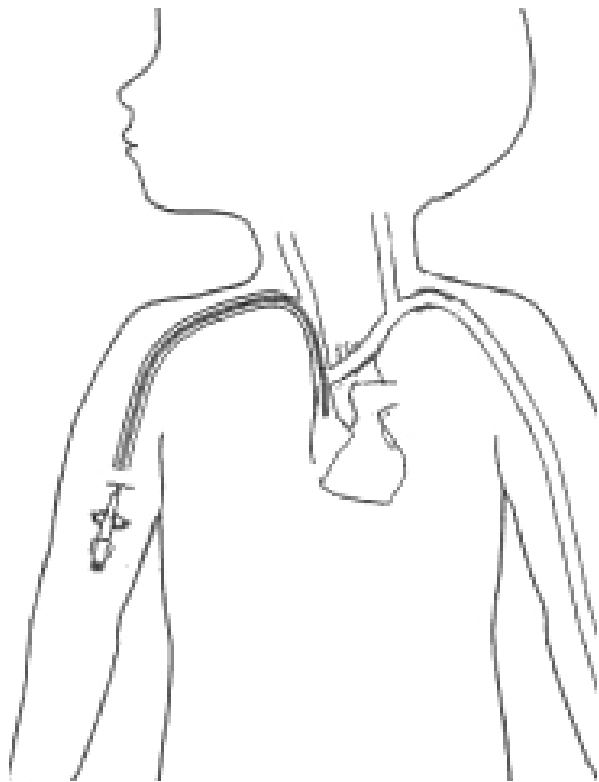
# Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC)



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## Your Doctor has requested a PICC line for your child.

A Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) is a small flexible tube that is inserted in the arm above the elbow. The tube floats in the vein with the end of the tube resting in the large vessel close to the heart.



A PICC line is used to give intravenous (IV) therapy that is irritating to the smaller veins such as antibiotics and intravenous nutrition (TPN). It is recommended for IV treatment needed for longer than 5 days.

PICC lines are inserted in our Radiology department. Special equipment is used to ensure the best placement of the catheter. The radiology department will schedule a time for this procedure. You will be asked to sign consent form for the procedure. The staff in radiology will tell you about any risks at this time, and you may ask any questions that you have.

Your child may be given medicine to make him/her sleep during the procedure. A specialized Doctor called an anesthetist will give this medicine and care for your child. Do not give your child anything to eat or drink before the procedure. You will be given instructions as to how long your child must not eat before this procedure.

Your child may remain awake for the procedure. Instead of having medicine to go to sleep, your child would have freezing where the catheter is inserted. Talk to the IV team if you are unsure about which option would work best for your child.

The IV team will help to care for your child's PICC line. This will include dressing changes and checking for the placement of the PICC line. The members of the IV team can answer any questions you have.

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