

Maintenance of an Insuflon Catheter



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Living With An Insuflon

An insuflon is a catheter (small tube) that is inserted under your child's skin. Medicine can be given using this catheter instead of using a needle. Place a Tegaderm™ dressing (a clear adhesive dressing) on top of the insuflon. The adhesive dressing will last longer if reasonable care is taken.

If reasonable care is taken, your child can have a shower, but afterwards you will need to check the Tegaderm and change it if it is wet underneath.

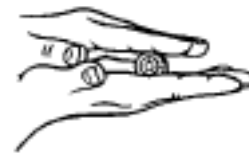
When Should The Insuflon Be Replaced?

The average time is once a week but you should check the insuflon site daily. Replace the dressing if you notice any of the following:

- pain, redness, discomfort or swelling at insertion site
- kinked catheter or a blockage in the catheter
- bruising or bleeding at insertion site
- lumps around the insertion site
- leakage around the insertion site
- loose adhesive dressing. If the adhesive dressing is not secure there is a danger the insuflon will move. If this happens, the cannula (small tube where the medicine goes in will come out and medication will not be delivered under the skin)
- insuflon catheter pulls out from the skin

Step By Step Administration Of Enoxaparin Through The Insuflon:

1. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 15 seconds, rubbing all surfaces briskly, or use an alcohol hand sanitizer.
2. Gather supplies:
 - alcohol wipes
 - cotton ball (if desired)
 - vial of medicine
 - ___ ml syringe with a ___ inch needle
 - sharps container for needles, such as:
 - a special container for this purpose
 - coffee can with cover
 - plastic detergent bottle with lid
3. Check the date on the vial to make sure the medicine has not expired. If the medicine has changed color, or contains flakes or lumps, discard it and use a new vial.
4. If the vial is cold, warm it by holding it in your hand, or letting it stand at room temperature for 1 hour. If the medicine must be mixed, roll the vial in your hands. Do not shake it.

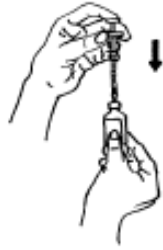


5. The first time you use a vial, snap off the plastic cover. Do not remove the stopper.
6. Scrub the stopper with an alcohol wipe and let it dry.

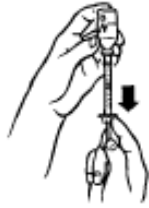
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7. Draw air into the syringe by pulling the plunger back to the line that marks the dose you need to give.

8. Carefully remove the needle cover. Do not touch the needle. Put the needle through the stopper and push the air into the vial.



9. Turn the vial upside down. Pull the needle down so only the tip pokes through the stopper. This will allow you to withdraw the medicine without getting air.



10. Pull back on the plunger and let the medicine flow into the syringe until it reaches the amount to be given.

11. Check the syringe for air bubbles. The air is harmless, but too large an air bubble will reduce the dose. To remove air bubbles gently push the solution back into the vial and measure the dose again or tap the syringe to make the bubble go to the top. Squirt the bubble into the vial. Measure the dose again.

12. Remove the needle from the vial. If you must lay the syringe down, carefully replace the needle cover first. Do not allow the needle to touch anything.

13. Clean the opening of the insuflon with alcohol.

14. Insert the needle slowly into the opening of the insuflon. Note that the needle may not go all the way and do not force it.

15. Give the drug slowly through the insuflon to minimize stinging.

16. Apply firm pressure to the insuflon catheter site (where the end of the catheter would be) for 2-5 minutes. This will minimize bleeding and bruising at the site and help the insuflon to last longer. Do not massage the site.

17. Remove the needle from the insuflon and discard the needle and syringe by putting them into a rigid puncture resistant containers with lids or caps. You can get a sharps container from your pharmacy. **NEVER** throw needles directly into the garbage. Use the syringes and needles **ONLY ONCE**.