

- Hemodialysis should be performed under physician’s instructions.

HEPARINIZATION

- If the catheter is not to be used immediately for treatment, follow the suggested catheter patency guidelines.

- To maintain patency between treatments, a heparin lock must be created in each lumen of the catheter.

- Follow hospital protocol for heparin concentration.

1. Draw heparin into two syringes, corresponding to the amount designated on the arterial and venous extensions. Assure that the syringes are free of air.
2. Remove injection caps from the extensions.
3. Attach a syringe containing heparin solution to the female luer of each extension.
4. Open extension clamps.
5. Aspirate to insure that no air will be forced into the patient.
6. Inject heparin into each lumen using quick bolus technique.

Note: Each lumen should be completely filled with heparin to ensure effectiveness.

7. Close extension clamps.

Caution: Extension clamps should only be open for aspiration, flushing, and dialysis treatment.

8. Remove syringes.
9. Attach a sterile injection cap onto the female luers of the extensions.

- In most instances, no further heparin is necessary for 48-72 hours, provided the lumens have not been aspirated or flushed.

SITE CARE

Warning: DO NOT use iodine or iodine based products on this catheter. Failure of catheter will occur. Alcohol based solutions are recommended as the antiseptic solution that can be used on this catheter.

- Clean the skin around catheter. Cover the exit site with occlusive dressing. Leave the extensions, clamps, adapters and caps exposed for access by staff.

- Wound dressings must be kept dry. Patients must not swim, shower, or soak dressing while bathing. If adhesion of dressing is compromised by profuse perspiration or accidental wetting, the dressing must be changed by the medical or nursing staff under sterile conditions.

CATHETER PERFORMANCE

Caution: Always review hospital or unit protocol, potential complications and their treatment, warnings, and precautions prior to undertaking any type of mechanical or chemical intervention in response to catheter performance problems.

Warning: Only a physician familiar with the appropriate techniques should attempt the following procedures.

INSUFFICIENT FLOWS:

The following may cause insufficient blood flows:

- Occluded arterial holes due to clotting or fibrin sheath.
- Occlusion of the arterial side holes due to contact with vein wall.

Solutions include:

- Chemical intervention utilizing a thrombolytic agent.

MANAGEMENT OF ONE-WAY OBSTRUCTIONS:

One-way obstructions exist when a lumen can be flushed easily but blood cannot be aspirated. This is usually caused by tip malposition.

One of the following adjustments may resolve the obstruction:

- Reposition catheter.

- Reposition patient.

- Have patient cough.

- Provided there is no resistance, flush the catheter vigorously with sterile normal saline to try to move the tip away from the vessel wall.

INFECTION:

Caution: Due to the risk of exposure to HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) or other blood borne pathogens, health care professionals should always use Universal Blood and Body Fluid Precautions in the care of all patients.

- Sterile technique should always be strictly adhered to.

- Clinically recognized infection at a catheter exit site should be treated promptly with the appropriate antibiotic therapy.

- If a fever occurs in a patient with a catheter in place, take a minimum of two blood cultures from a site distant from catheter exit site. If blood culture is positive, the catheter must be removed immediately and the appropriate antibiotic therapy initiated. Wait 48 hours before catheter replacement.

Insertion should be made on opposite side of original catheter exit site, if possible.

CATHETER REMOVAL

Warning: Only a physician familiar with the appropriate techniques should attempt the following procedures.

Caution: Always review hospital or unit protocol, potential complications and their treatment, warnings, and precautions prior to catheter removal.

1. Cut sutures from suture wing. Follow hospital protocol for removal of skin sutures.
2. Withdraw catheter through the exit site.
3. Apply pressure to exit site for approximately 10-15 minutes or until bleeding stops.
4. Apply dressing in a manner to promote optimal healing.

14F x 20cm Average Flow vs Pressure					
	200	300	400	500	ml/min
venous	33	56	81.8	113.6	mmHg
arterial	-49	-83	-122.4	-169.6	mmHg

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Medical Components, Inc.

1499 Delp Drive

Harleysville, PA 19438 U.S.A.

Tel:215-256-4201

Fax:215-256-1787

www.medcompnet.com

EC

REP

MPS Medical Product Service GmbH
Borngasse 20
35619 Braunfels
Germany



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