

# Receiving IV medication from Children's Ward Outreach Team

**Paediatric Department**  
Patient Information Leaflet

## Introduction

Your child is receiving intravenous (IV) medication to treat their illness from the Children's Ward Outreach Team.

## What is IV medication?

It is medicine (e.g. antibiotics) given to your child direct into their bloodstream through one of their veins. Your child's consultant will have decided that this is the best way to treat their infection.

## Where will my child be given this treatment?

The IV treatment will be set up in the Children's Outpatient Department on the ground floor or in the Children's Ward at Russells Hall Hospital. You will then be able to take your child home and will be supported by the Children's Ward Outreach Team.

## What happens when my child is given the treatment?

A nurse will set up a drip into your child's vein and the medication will be given through this. The drip will use one of the following to access your child's vein:

- a butterfly cannula (a cannula is a thin plastic tube)
- a venous cannula
- a central line
- a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC line)

Once this has been set up you can take your child home.

# What are the risks and complications of IV medication and how do I deal with these?

## Bleeding

If your child has a cannula inserted it can come out if it is knocked and this may cause bleeding. If this does happen there is no need to panic – cover the area with a clean tissue, a medical dressing or cotton wool and press hard. The bleeding will normally stop in a few minutes and you can apply a plaster. If the bleeding does not stop, lift their arm above their head, keep applying pressure to their arm and contact:

The Outreach Team nurse on:

\_\_\_\_\_ (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

Out of these hours contact the Children's Ward at Russells Hall Hospital on:

01384 244271

## Infection

There is a small chance that your child may develop an infection at the site where the cannula or line goes into your child's vein so if your child has:

- pain
- redness
- swelling

in this area please contact the Outreach nurse.

## Leakage

Contact the Outreach nurse if any of the medicine leaks out of the cannula or line.

## Allergic reaction

Allergic reactions to the medications are rare but you must be aware that this can happen. Contact the Outreach nurse or your GP **immediately** if your child gets any of the following symptoms:

- Rash or severe itching
- Swelling of the lips, mouth or throat
- Wheezing or shortness of breath (dial 999 for an ambulance)
- Diarrhoea and / or vomiting
- Feeling faint or suddenly unwell

## What alternatives are there to receiving IV medication from the Outreach Team?

Your child could stay in hospital to receive their IV medication or be given medication that they take by mouth. Your child's consultant will discuss this with you.

## Our responsibility to you and your child

We have a legal responsibility to keep confidential all of the information held about you and your family. Information may need to be shared with others involved in your care from time to time, for example, with a hospital consultant or district nurse. We will always meet the conditions set out in the Data Protection Act 1988 when sharing information in this way.

If you have any concerns about your child's treatment please speak to the nurse in charge of your care, the lead nurse or matron. However if the matter is not resolved you can contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) and Complaints Department on Freephone 0800 073 0510.

If you have any questions or if there is anything you do not understand about this leaflet please contact:

The Children's Ward Outreach Team on:

01384 456111 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Ask Switchboard to transfer you to them)

Out of these hours please contact:

The Children's Ward on

01384 244271

**This leaflet can be made available in large print, audio version and in other languages, please call 0800 0730510**

ਜੇਕਰ ਇਹ ਲੀਫਲੈੱਟ (ਛੋਟਾ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ) ਤੁਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ (ਪੰਜਾਬੀ) ਵਿੱਚ ਲੈਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ ਤਾਂ ਕ੍ਰਿਪਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਪੇਸ਼ਟ ਇੰਫਰਮੇਸ਼ਨ ਕੋ-ਆਰਡੀਨੇਟਰ ਨਾਲ **0800 0730510** ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

यदि आपको यह दस्तावेज़ अपनी भाषा में चाहिए तो पेशन्ट इनफरमेशन को-आरडीनेटर को टेलीफोन नम्बर **0800 0730510** पर फोन करें।

જો તમને આ પત્રિકા તમારી પોતાની ભાષા (ગુજરાતી)માં જોઈતી હોય, તો કૃપા કરીને પેશન્ટ ઇન્ફોર્મેશન કો-ઓર્ડિનેટરનો **0800 0730510** પર સંપર્ક કરો.

আপনি যদি এই প্রচারপত্রটি আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পেতে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে পেশেন্ট ইনফরমেশন কো-অর্ডিনেটরের সাথে **0800 0730510** এই নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করুন।

إذا كنت ترغب هذه الوريقة مترجمة بلغتك الاصلية ( اللغة العربية ) , فرجاء اتصل بمنسق المعلومات للمريض  
**0800 0730510** على التلفون Information Co-ordinator

میں ضرورت اکیلے لکھی زبان (اردو) میں حاصل کرنے کے لئے رہبر ہماری ٹیلیفون نمبر **0800 0730510** پوزیشن کو اور دفتر (مریضوں کے لئے معلومات کی فراہمی کے سلسلے میں) کے ساتھ رابطہ کریں۔

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