

# How to Care for an Intravenous (IV) Peripheral Catheter at Home

## How to Care for Your IV Catheter

Your doctor has approved for you to go home with your peripheral IV so you don't need a new one put in tomorrow for infusion therapy.

While you are home:

- Don't wear clothing or fabric (including a blanket or bed sheet) that may rub or catch on the catheter.
- Keep the IV site clean and dry.
- Don't adjust or remove any parts of the IV, including the tape.
- If the catheter pulls out all of the way:
  - Apply pressure over the area where the catheter was located.
  - Cover it with a bandage.

## When to Call 911

Call 911 if you have shortness of breath, chest pain, or both.

## When to Call Your Primary Care Provider

Call your primary care provider if you have any signs of an infection at the IV site:

- temperature of 100.4 F or higher
- chills, shaking, body aches or sweating
- pain at the catheter or along the catheter where under the skin
- increased redness, swelling, drainage or pain.