

Home Infusion Therapy Using Dial-a-flow Tubing



Allina Health

Times to give your medicine:

_____ a.m. / p.m.

_____ a.m. / p.m.

_____ a.m. / p.m.

_____ a.m. / p.m.

Medicine rate (per hour) prescribed: _____

This is the number on the dial to which you will adjust the arrow.

You will need to change your tubing every 24 hours.

Change your tubing every day at: _____ a.m. / p.m.

Home Infusion Therapy

Your health care provider has ordered home infusion therapy for you. Infusion therapy is a treatment that gives medicine through an IV line in your hand, arm or chest area.

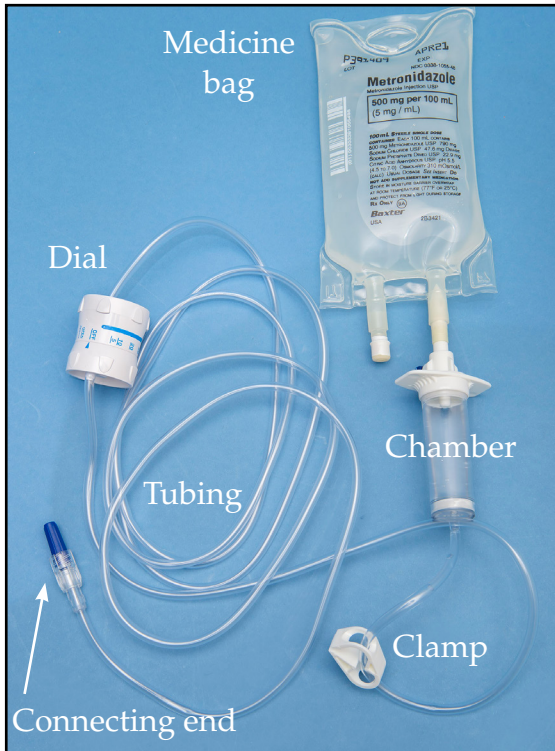
Infusion therapy is usually given in the hospital. However, it is possible for some infusion therapy to be given in the comfort of your own home.

You will be giving your home infusion therapy using dial-a-flow tubing.

Supplies You Will Need

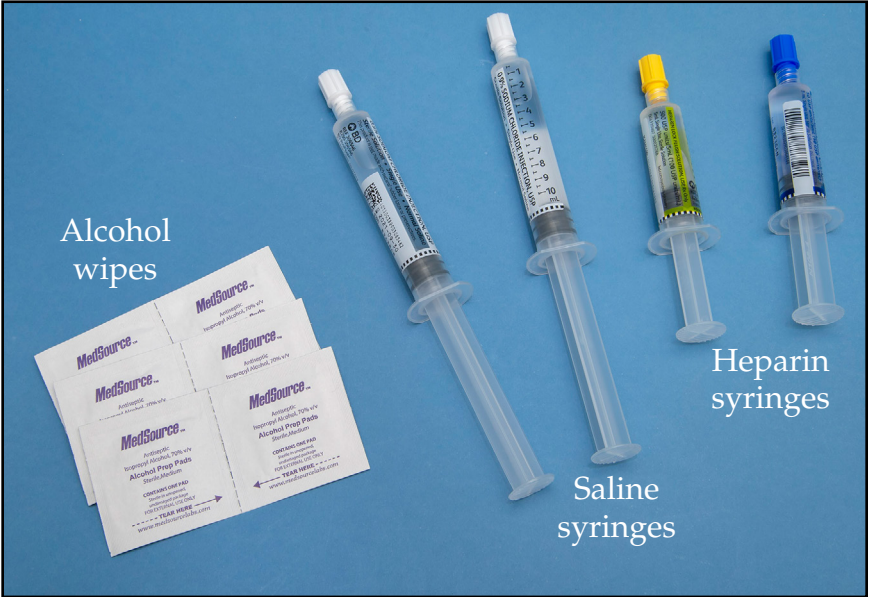
You will need the following supplies to give your home infusion therapy:

- medicine bag
- tubing
- IV pole
- alcohol wipes
- 2 pre-filled saline syringes
- 1 pre-filled heparin syringe. You will only have one type of heparin (yellow or blue cap) syringe.



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This is an example of what your medicine bag may look like. Your medicine bag could be a different size.



Supplies you will need.

Setting Up the System With New Tubing

Step 1: Preparing the medicine and tubing

1. When you are ready to give your medicine, clean your work area, gather your supplies and wash your hands.
2. Close the clamp on the tubing by using your fingers to pinch it shut.



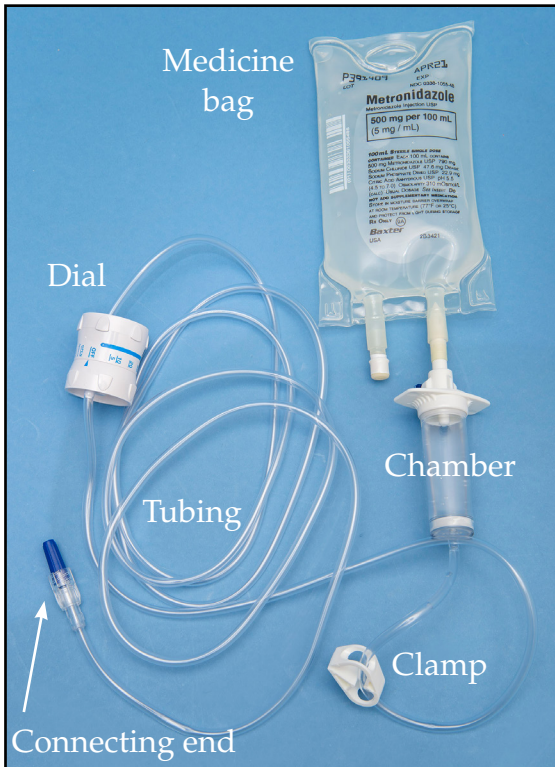
Tubing.

3. Remove the rubber cap from the port on the medicine bag. Make sure the tip of the port does not touch anything. (Keep it sterile.)
4. Remove the clear cap from one end of the tubing and insert it into the port on the medicine bag.



Medicine bag.

5. Hang the medicine bag on the IV pole.
6. Squeeze the chamber and slowly release until it is half full of medicine.
7. Open the dial by twisting until the arrow is set to “open.”
8. **Prime the tubing:** Open the clamp. You will see the medicine from the chamber flow through the tubing. When the medicine reaches the other (opposite) end of the tubing, close the clamp.
9. Adjust the arrow on the dial to the number (rate) your health care provider prescribed for you.



Medicine bag with tubing.

Step 2: Giving the medicine


1. Prepare the saline and heparin syringes.
 - Remove the cap or plastic cover from the tip of the syringe. Hold the syringe so the tip points upward.
 - Slowly push up on the barrel or plunger of the syringe to remove air bubbles.
 - Hold the syringe between your middle finger and pointer finger (index finger) to keep the tip of the syringe from touching anything.
2. Pick up an alcohol wipe. Open the alcohol wipe and scrub the end of the catheter (cap) for at least 15 seconds. Allow to dry for 15 seconds.
3. Screw the saline syringe firmly into the end cap or valve of the catheter. If your catheter has a clamp on it, open the clamp.
 - Push on the plunger or barrel of the syringe in a push/pause motion. Push (or flush) the saline solution into the catheter.
 - If you feel resistance while flushing, **stop** (do **not** force it) and call your home care nursing agency or home infusion pharmacy.
4. Pick up a new alcohol wipe. Open the alcohol wipe and scrub the end of the catheter (cap) for at least 15 seconds. Allow to dry for 15 seconds.
5. Unscrew the blue cap at the end of the tubing and connect it to the IV catheter.
6. Open the clamp on the tubing. The medicine will start moving through the tubing. It should take about _____ minutes to give your medicine.

Step 3: After giving the medicine

Tubing can be used for 24 hours. Your health care provider should have written a time to change your tubing at the beginning of this booklet. If you need to change your tubing at your next medicine dose, throw the used tubing and medicine bag away. Then follow steps 3 to 6 below.

If you will be reusing your tubing, follow steps 1 to 6 below:

1. Close the clamp on the tubing.
2. Screw a new (sterile) blue cap to the end of the tubing. Leave the used medicine bag connected to the tubing on the IV pole.
3. Pick up a new alcohol wipe. Open the alcohol wipe and scrub the end of the catheter (cap) for at least 15 seconds. Allow to dry for 15 seconds.
4. Screw the saline syringe firmly into the end cap or valve of the catheter. If your catheter has a clamp on it, open the clamp.
 - Push on the plunger or barrel of the syringe in a push/pause motion. Push (or flush) the saline solution into the catheter.
 - If you feel resistance while flushing, **stop** (do **not** force it) and call your home care nursing agency or home infusion pharmacy.
5. Pick up a new alcohol wipe. Open the alcohol wipe and scrub the end of the catheter (cap) for at least 15 seconds. Allow to dry for 15 seconds.

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6. Screw the heparin syringe firmly into the end cap or valve of the catheter.
 - Push on the plunger or barrel of the syringe in a pushpause motion. Push (or flush) the heparin solution into the catheter.
 - If your catheter has a clamp on it, close the clamp.

Whom to Call With Questions

Call your home care nursing agency or home infusion pharmacy if you have questions or concerns.



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