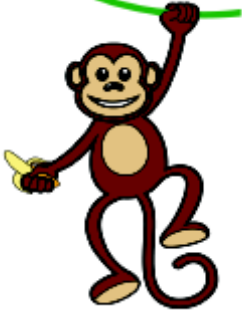


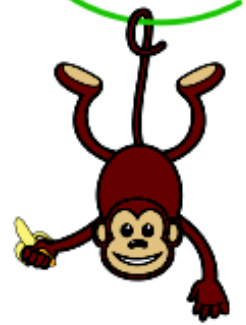
Children & Young People's Services

Information on Extravasation in Paediatric Patients



This leaflet provides information for children and their families whose intravenous medications may have leaked from the vein into which they were having their intravenous medications.

The leaflet will explain what an extravasation is, what complications may occur and how it will be managed.



What is an extravasation?

- Extravasation occurs when a medication leaks from a vein into the skin or surrounding tissues.
- Extravasation can also occur in rare occasions if you have a PICC line or central line placed.
- If an extravasation occurs you will usually notice pain, swelling or redness around the site where your cannula is. Once this cannula has been removed, if your child still requires intravenous medications another cannula will be placed in an alternative site.
- If you notice any of these symptoms whilst your child is receiving intravenous fluids or medications, **YOU MUST** inform the nurse immediately.

What we do to prevent extravasation

- We ensure the infusion site is clearly visible. If your child has a bandage protecting the cannula this should be removed when administering medications to allow the site to be checked.
- We ensure the infusion site is checked on a regular basis to ensure there are no signs of extravasation. If continuous fluids are being administered this will be on an hourly basis.
- We have a good awareness of the types of drugs which can increase the risk of extravasation.
- We record, monitor, and investigate all extravasation injuries that occur. This is so that we can put measures in place to try to prevent them happening in the future.

Possible Complications

- The complications will vary depending on which medication has caused the problem.
- Most patients will experience few problems from the extravasation, elevation of the limb will help reduce swelling, however some drugs may damage the skin and surrounding tissues if they leak.
- It can develop swelling, redness, pain or the development of blisters or ulcers.

Treatment

- An extravasation is likely to be uncomfortable so your child will receive the appropriate pain relief.
- The treatment will vary depending on what drug has caused the problem.
- You will be given treatment by your nurse immediately if an extravasation happens or is suspected to have happened.
- A member of the tissue viability team may be called to assess the wound and dressings may be recommended.
- You will also be given advice what to do when you go home and any follow up appointments.

You may be given:

- An injection of drugs into the skin around the extravasation area.
- Creams/lotions to apply to the area.
- Be advised to use heat or cold to the area.

These are given to minimise any damage the medications may cause.

Long Term Effects of Extravasation

- The area may be sore for a short while but if the extravasation is recognised and treated early then there should not be any long-term effects.
- In some cases where tissue damage is more extensive, further specialist treatment may be required and healing times may be longer.
- In these cases, a referral may be made to the plastic surgery team.
- It may be necessary to take photographs of the site, if so, you will be asked for consent by the medical photography department.

When you go home if you notice any of the symptoms mentioned you should contact the ward on 01422 223277

If you have any comments about this leaflet or the service you have received you can contact :

Carly Toon or Tammy Willis
Clinical Ward Managers

Telephone: 01422 223460

www.cht.nhs.uk

If you would like this information in another format or language contact the above.

Potřebujete-li tyto informace v jiném formátu nebo jazyce, obraťte se prosím na výše uvedené oddělení

Jeżeli są Państwo zainteresowani otrzymaniem tych informacji w innym formacie lub wersji językowej, prosimy skontaktować się z nami, korzystając z ww. danych kontaktowych

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ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

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برائے مہربانی مندرجہ بالا شعبے میں ہم سے رابطہ کریں۔

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