



# Safety Bulletin

April 2017 • Issue

## Midline Catheter Safety Alert

A midline catheter is a short-term peripheral catheter (up to 29 days) for access to the venous system for selected intravenous therapy and blood sampling. The tip of the catheter terminates distal to the shoulder.

**Used as a peripheral line ONLY. It is NOT a central line or PICC.**

### Practice Standards for Midline Catheter care:

- Initiate the *IV Access Device Management Protocol Orders- Adult* order set
- Chest X-ray for confirmation not required on admission
- Cerner documentation located under *LINES<Midline*
- **NO** blood pressure cuff or tourniquet **on top** of the Midline Catheter of arm with catheter
- Blood sampling: (hold infusion 2 min, if applicable)
  - \* Flush with 5 mL 0.9% Sodium Chloride
  - \* Draw minimum 1-2 mL waste
  - \* Draw blood sample
  - \* Flush with 0.9% Sodium Chloride
  - \* Continue infusion or dwell with heparin or Sodium Citrate
- Do not draw blood cultures from a Midline Catheter
- This is NOT a central line therefore there are drugs you do not infuse in the Midline, for example:
  - \* Final dextrose concentration above 10%
  - \* TPN or Total Parenteral Nutrition
  - \* Protein concentrations above 5%
  - \* *Continuous* vesicants such as NORepinephrine or hetastarch
  - \* Osmolarity >900 mOsm or ph between 5-9, such as amiodarone or DOPamine
- Do NOT use alteplase if midline is occluded.

### Midline Catheter Care order set:

- Heparin or Sodium Citrate dwell in the catheter when not in use, see *Midline Catheter Care* order set
- Flush with 10mL or larger syringes
- Tegaderm dressing changes every 7 days, or PRN
- Tegaderm dressing with gauze every 48 hours, or PRN
- Injection cap changes every 96 hours
- Assessment and documentation of site every 2 hours: redness, soreness, swelling of arm or hand or leaking at insertion site
- Securement device changed with each dressing change
- Intermittent flush of catheter every 24 hours
- If not labeled “midline” on the catheter, see pictures below, label dressing to say that it is a *Midline Catheter*
- Notify MD/provider if catheter is occluded
- If the Midline does not draw blood, but can still be flushed it is acceptable to use as an access.

### Four common Midline Catheters:



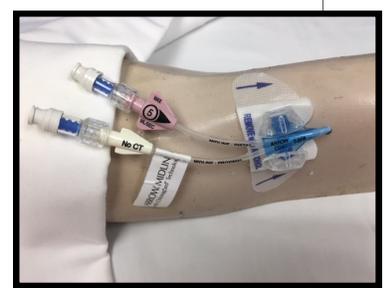
BARD PowerMIDline



POWERWAND



BioFlo MIDLINE



ARROW MIDLINE