

IV Medication Administration: Gravity

This information is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice. As such, please follow recommendations from your doctor, nurse or pharmacist.

Prior to use

- Consult medication label for instructions regarding when to remove medication from refrigerator
- **NEVER** speed warming process by heating or microwaving medication
- Use clean work area
- Clean hands thoroughly using soap and warm water for at least **20 SECONDS**
(if no soap and water is available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer)
- Dry hands with clean towel

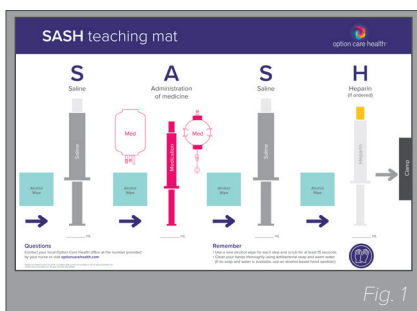


Fig. 1

1 | Gather supplies and prepare SASH mat as instructed:

- SASH mat (See Fig. 1)
- IV medication bag
- IV tubing (may be used for 24 hours)
- IV pole
- (2) Saline flush syringes
- (1) Heparin flush syringe (if ordered)
- Alcohol wipes
- Sharps container and/or trash container

2 | Inspect medication bag

Check label on bag (See Fig. 2) and verify:

- Correct name of patient
- Correct name of medication
- Volume/amount of medication
- Time required to warm medication to room temperature
- “Use by date” of medication

Medication bag should be free of leaks, floating particles or discoloration. Call your nurse or pharmacist if there are problems with medication bag or anything on label is incorrect.

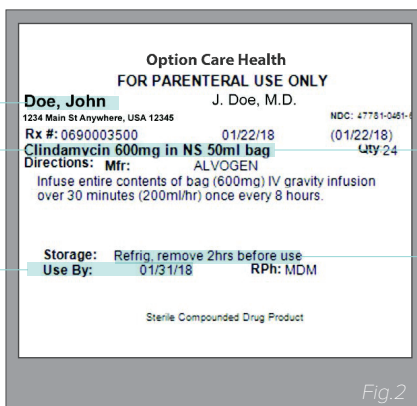
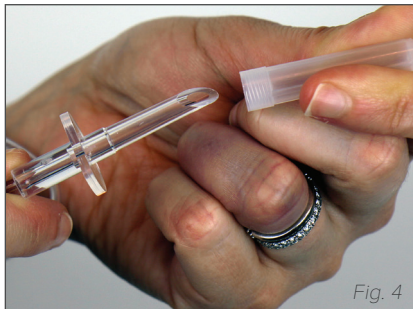
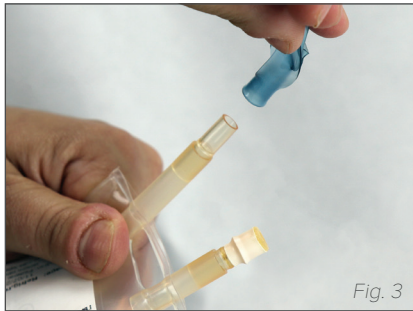


Fig. 2

For demonstration purposes, follow the instructions on YOUR medication bag.



3 | Prepare IV medication and tubing

- A. Remove IV tubing from package.
- B. Close clamp on IV tubing.
- C. Place medication bag on clean, flat surface.
- D. Remove tab from medication bag. *(See Fig. 3)*
- E. Remove cover from spike of tubing. *(See Fig. 4)*
DO NOT touch end of tubing.
- F. Spike bag by pushing and twisting end of tubing into bag. *(See Fig. 5)* Make sure spike reaches medication in bag, being careful not to puncture bag. *(See Fig. 6)*
- G. Hang IV medication container on IV pole. Gently squeeze drip chamber until 1/2 full of fluid. **DO NOT** overfill. *(See Fig. 7)*
- H. Slowly open clamp, filling tubing with medication.
- I. When medication reaches end of tubing, close clamp.

4 | Flush IV line with saline

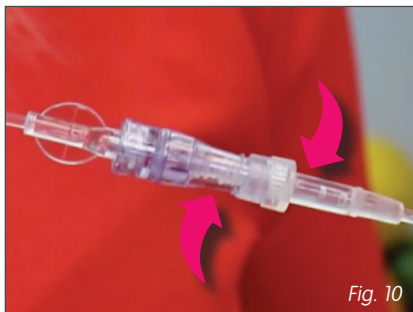
- A. Scrub needleless connector on IV catheter with alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. *(See Fig. 8)*
- B. Push saline flush syringe plunger to break seal.
- C. Remove protective cap from saline flush syringe.
DO NOT touch syringe tip after removing cap.

Discard saline flush syringe if uncapped sterile tip touches any unclean surface.

- D. Hold the syringe upright and gently push plunger to remove air from syringe.
- E. Attach saline flush syringe to needleless connector on IV catheter using push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. *(See Fig. 9)*
- F. Open clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- G. Flush IV catheter using “push/pause” method. To do this, push small amount of fluid, pause for **2-3 SECONDS** and repeat until prescribed amount is infused.

DO NOT attempt to flush if resistance is met; call nurse or pharmacist.

- H. Close clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- I. Remove saline flush syringe and discard in trash container after use.



5 | Medication administration

- A. Scrub needleless connector on IV catheter with alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. (See Fig. 8)
- B. Remove protective cap from IV tubing.
- C. Attach medication tubing firmly to needleless connector on IV catheter. Use push and clockwise twisting motion until secured. (See Fig. 10)
- D. Open clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set. (Drops should be seen falling into drip chamber as medication begins infusing. Drip rate is ___ drops every 15 seconds. Adjust rate using clamp as needed.)
- E. Open clamp on medication tubing.
- F. Once dose has infused, close clamp on IV tubing.
- G. Close clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- H. Disconnect IV tubing from catheter.
- I. Discard all equipment in trash container.

If tubing is to be used again within 24 hours, cover exposed IV tubing tip with sterile cap provided.

6 | Flush IV line with saline

- A. Scrub needleless connector on IV catheter with alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. (See Fig. 8)
- B. Push saline flush syringe plunger to break seal.
- C. Remove protective cap from saline flush syringe. **DO NOT** touch syringe tip after removing cap.

Discard saline flush syringe if uncapped sterile tip touches any unclean surface.

- D. Hold syringe upright and gently push plunger to remove air from syringe.
- E. Attach saline flush syringe to needleless connector on IV catheter using push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. (See Fig. 9)
- F. Open clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- G. Flush IV catheter using “push/pause” method. To do this, push small amount of fluid, pause for **2-3 SECONDS** and repeat until prescribed amount is infused.

DO NOT attempt to flush if resistance is met; call nurse or pharmacist.



6 | Flush IV line with saline *Continued...*

- H. Close clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- I. Remove saline flush syringe and discard in trash container after use.

7 | Flush IV line with heparin (if ordered)

- A. Scrub needleless connector on IV catheter with alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. *(See Fig. 8)*
- B. Push heparin flush syringe plunger to break seal.
- C. Remove protective cap from heparin flush syringe. **DO NOT** touch syringe tip after removing cap.

Discard heparin flush syringe if uncapped sterile tip touches any unclean surface.

- D. Hold syringe upright and gently push plunger to remove air from syringe.
- E. Attach heparin flush syringe to needleless connector on IV catheter using push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. *(See Fig. 9)*
- F. Open clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- G. Flush IV catheter using “push/pause” method. To do this, push small amount of fluid, pause for **2-3 SECONDS** and repeat until prescribed amount is infused.

DO NOT attempt to flush if resistance is met; call nurse or pharmacist.

- H. Close clamp on IV catheter and/or IV extension set.
- I. Remove heparin flush syringe and discard in trash container

Call your nurse or doctor with any questions or concerns

Your Option Care Health team is available on call 24/7/365 to assist you.



To view video instructions and access additional educational resources, visit optioncarehealth.com/education.