

Section: UTMB On-line Documentation	01.51-Policy
Subject: Infection Control & Healthcare Epidemiology Policies and Procedures	04.11.2022 - Revised
Topic: 0.151 - “Scrub the Hub” Technique for Intravascular Catheters and Infusion Systems	Author: 7.13.12

01.51 - “Scrub the Hub” Technique for Intravascular Catheters and Infusion Systems

Purpose To provide guidance to healthcare workers on how to effectively disinfect catheter hubs and injection ports on central venous catheters and peripherally inserted central catheters (PICCs)

Audience All UTMB employees who access central venous and peripherally inserted central catheters

Policy All injection ports or catheter hubs must be disinfected with 70% isopropyl alcohol prior to inserting a needle or a needle-less device.

Procedure

1. Perform hand hygiene
2. Don clean gloves
3. Use an alcohol pledget to scrub the catheter hub or injection port.
 - Apply the alcohol pledget to the hub/port and use a twisting motion.
 - Scrub the hub or injection port for 10-15 seconds.
 - Use each alcohol pledget only one time and then discard.
4. Infuse medication or draw the blood and label as per policy
5. Remove gloves and discard
6. Perform hand hygiene

Education Education will be provided to UTMB employees who access central venous and PICC catheters.

References: Appendix 3. Guidelines to Prevent Central Line-Associated Blood Stream Infections. Content last reviewed March 2018. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD. <https://www.ahrq.gov/hai/clabsi-tools/appendix-3.html>

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Ryder M., et al. Differences in bacterial transfer and fluid path colonization through needlefree connector-catheter systems in vitro. Paper presented at Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America meeting, Dallas, Apr 29, 2011.

The Joint Commission. Preventing Central Line–Associated Bloodstream Infections: Useful Tools, An International Perspective. Nov 20, 2013. Accessed [April 11, 2022.]

Toolkit for Reducing Central Line-Associated Blood Stream Infections. Content last reviewed March 2018. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Rockville, MD. <https://www.ahrq.gov/hai/clabsi-tools/index.html>