





Going Home with a Cannula

Patient information Leaflet

June 2019

The purpose of this leaflet is to help you manage a child with a cannula at home.

What is a cannula?

The cannula is a flexible tube that has been placed in a vein. It is usually on their hand or the inside of their elbow but sometimes can be placed on your child's foot.

Why does my child need a cannula?

Your child has been seen by a doctor who has decided they need treating with intravenous antibiotics. This means that their medicine is being given directly into a vein.

If we feel that your child is well enough we can discharge you from the ward and send you and your child home with the children's community nurses to give the antibiotic at your home. If this is not possible for your child we may send you home 'on leave' between antibiotics. You must however arrive back on the ward at the time your nurse tells you so she/he can give the antibiotics at the right time.

How is the cannula fitted?

Once the cannula is fitted, it is bandaged to protect it. For smaller children and babies a splint may also be used to support and protect the cannula. Whilst at home it is important to protect the cannula as it could still get knocked or dislodged.

Please:

- Do not allow it to get wet
- Take care when removing your child's clothing
- Ensure your child is supervised when playing

What happens if the cannula comes out?

If the cannula comes out whilst at home, use a clean tissue or cloth to apply pressure to the site for about 2-5 minutes, as it may bleed a little. When the bleeding stops cover the site with a plaster, if available.

Please telephone either the Children's Community Nurses or the ward and inform them as a further cannula may need to be put in so that your child can complete their prescribed course of treatment. (see contact numbers below)

If you are to return to the ward for your child's antibiotics the nurse will write the time and date it is due. Please arrive back on the ward at least 15 minutes before this time.

Date	Time

Useful Contact Numbers:

- Children's Unit 0161 922 5252 (24 hrs)
- Children's Community Team 0161 922 5251 (08.00-20.00 mon-sun)

Useful Websites/information:

- Department of Health (www.dh.gov.uk)
- NHS Choices (www.nhs.uk/conditions)
- NHS institute for innovation and improvement (www.institute.nhs.uk)
- NHS Improvement (www.improvement.nhs.uk)

In compiling this information leaflet, a number of recognised professional bodies including the Department of Health, NHS Improvement, NHS Choices, have been used.

Adapted from: North and East Hertfordshire NHS (2007) Going home with a cannula

If you have any questions you want to ask, you can use this space below to remind you							

If you have a visual impairment this leaflet can be made available in bigger print or on audiotape. If you require either of these options please contact the Patient Information Centre on 0161 922 5332

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য পড়তে বা বুখতে না পারেন,তাহজে অনুগ্রহ করে এথনিক হেলথ টিমের সাথে টেলিফোনে যোগাযোগ করন 0161 331 5149/5150 এই নাম্বারে, তখন তারা আপনাকে সাহায্য করতে পারবে।

જો આપ આ માહિતી વાંચી કે સામછ શકો નહિ તો કૃપા કરી, એથનીક હેલ્થ ટીમનો 0161 331 5149/5150 નંબર પર સંપર્ક સાધો તેઓ આપને જરૂર મદદ કરશે.

اگریہ معلومات پڑھ خبیں سکتے ہیں یاآپ کو اس کی سمجھ خبیں آتی ہے تو ہراہ مہربانی پیشخنک ہیلتھ ٹیم کے ساتھ ٹیلی فون نمبر 01615159 1331 0161 بررابطہ کریں تووہ آپ کی مد د کر سکیں گے۔

Author: Claire Casey Division/ Department: Children's Unit

Date Created: 25/02/17 Date Reviwed: June 2019 Reference: Paed 010

Version: 1.2