

Care of an Intravenous Cannula

Patient Information

Community React Team



The Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website is available on the link:
<https://www.wwl.nhs.uk/patient-information-leaflets> or scan the QR code.

Author ID: LL
Leaflet Ref: CM 295
Version: 8
Leaflet title: Care of Intravenous Cannula
Date Produced: July 2024
Expiry Date: July 2026

Introduction

This leaflet will provide you with information on how to care for an intravenous cannula whilst receiving your treatment.

A cannula is a hollow plastic tube designed for insertion into a vein. The tube contains a sharp needle, which guides the cannula into the vein. Once the cannula is in place, the needle is removed and disposed of safely.

Instructions on the care of the cannula

- Keep the dressing that covers the cannula clean and dry.
- Take care when removing items of clothing so that you do not catch the cannula.
- If there is any pain or swelling around the site of the cannula, inform the Community React Team or the District Nurses Evening and Night Service.

As the cannula is fragile, movement can easily dislodge it. If the cannula becomes dislodged:

- Carefully remove the dressing and immediately apply firm pressure over the site for three to four minutes or until the bleeding has stopped.
- Cover the site with a small sticking plaster.
- Place the cannula in a small plastic bag and put it in a safe place, out of the reach of children, until a nurse visit.

If the bleeding continues for more than 30 minutes or you require any further advice or assistance, please contact one of the following services.

District Nurses Evening and Night Service

8:30pm to 8am

Telephone: 0300 707 1266 **Mobile:** 07860 794654

Community React Team

Monday to Sunday: 8am to 8:30pm

Telephone: 0300 707 2112

Contact information

If you have any questions or queries, which we have not covered in this leaflet, please contact us.

Please use this space to write notes or reminders.

Comments, Compliments or Complaints

The Patient Relations/Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) Department provides confidential on the spot advice, information and support to patients, relatives, friends, and carers.

Contact Us

Tel: 01942 822376 (Monday to Friday 9am until 4pm)

The Patient Relations/PALS Manager
Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary
Wigan Lane
Wigan
WN1 2NN

Ask 3 Questions

Become more involved in decisions about your healthcare. You may be asked to make choices about your treatment. To begin with, try to make sure you get the answers to three key questions:

1. What are my options?
2. What are the positives and negatives of each option for me?
3. How do I get support to help me make a decision that is right for me?



How We Use Your Information

For details on how we collect, use, and store the information we hold about you, please see patient information leaflet, Ref. **Corp 006** How we use your information, this can be found on the Patient Information Leaflets page on the Trust website, see details on the front cover.

This leaflet is also available in audio, large print, Braille, and other languages upon request. For more information, please ask in the department/ward.

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