

NxStage has prepared this checklist to provide you with a quick summary of the major steps to prepare and use your vascular access to help reduce the risk of infection. This checklist should be used with the NxSTEPS™ vascular access resources. It is not intended to replace your center's instructions or other training you may receive. Fill in the blanks following your center's instructions.



Catheter Connection

- Wash hands with antibacterial soap for **at least 40 seconds** then dry with paper towel
- Gather supplies and place on clean surface
- Disinfect the top of the anticoagulant bottle
- Draw up ____ **cc** anticoagulant as prescribed and recap the syringe
- Draw up 10cc normal saline and recap the syringe
- Put on facemask, cleanse hands with antiseptic gel and put on a pair of clean gloves
- Place sterile underpad under the catheter limbs
- Make sure catheter clamps are closed
- Scrub each catheter cap and luer connection for **at least** ____ **minutes** with sterile gauze soaked with disinfectant
- Remove gloves and cleanse hands with antiseptic gel
- Put on clean gloves
- Remove cap from hub of catheter limb
- Scrub each catheter hub **for** ____ **minutes**
- Withdraw anticoagulant and ____ **cc** blood from each catheter limb
- Flush each catheter limb with saline
- Give the anticoagulant as prescribed
- Aseptically** connect to blood lines and open clamps
- Remove gloves, facemask and cleanse hands with antiseptic gel

Catheter Disconnection

- Care Partner wash hands with antibacterial soap for **at least 40 seconds** then dry with paper towel
- Patient cleanse hands with antiseptic gel
- Disinfect the top of the anticoagulant (heparin) bottle and draw up ___ **cc** anticoagulant (locking solution)
- Put on facemask, cleanse hands with antiseptic gel and put on a pair of clean gloves
- Make sure all clamps are closed
- Soak catheter and bloodline connection **for** ___ **mins** with sterile gauze soaked with disinfectant
- Aseptically** disconnect catheter from blood lines
- Flush each catheter limbs with saline
- Instill locking solution into each catheter limb
- Dry catheter hubs with new sterile dry gauze.
- Aseptically** attach new caps to catheter hubs securely
- Remove gloves, facemask and wash hands

Exit Site Care Checklist

- Care Partner wash hands with antibacterial soap for at least 40 seconds then dry with paper towel
- Patient cleanse hands with antiseptic gel
- Put on facemask and clean gloves
- Aseptically** remove site dressing and discard
- Remove gloves , cleanse hands with antiseptic gel and then put on clean gloves
- Disinfect catheter exit site for ___ **sec** and let air dry
- Apply antimicrobial ointment to the exit site, if prescribed
- Cover exit site with sterile dressing
- Remove gloves, facemask and cleanse hands with antiseptic gel

**Always complete exit site care (as directed by your center),
evaluate access site and report any abnormalities and/or fever**