

HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE SUPPORT SERVICES

South West

Adult Standard Flushing Protocol – Effective January 1st, 2021

	Pre-Infusion Flush	Post-Infusion Flush	Maintenance Flush (Inactive line)	Pre & Post Blood Drawing	Pre & Post Intermittent TPN
Peripheral Line	3-5 mL NS	3-5 mL NS	3-5 mL NS q 24hours		
Midline	10 mL NS	10 mL NS	10 mL NS q 24hours		
Central Venous Catheters (such as Hickman's & PICC's)	10-20 mL NS	10-20 mL NS	10-20 mL NS q 1week	Pre: 10-20 mL NS Post: 10-20 mL NS	Pre: 10- 20 mL NS Post: 10-20 mL NS
Implanted Port	10-20 mL NS	10-20 mL NS	10-20 mL NS q 4weeks (*)	Pre: 10-20 mL NS Post: 10-20 mL NS (*)	Pre: 10-20 mL NS Post: 10-20 mL NS (*)

(*) Heparin removed from Implanted Port protocol for maintenances, blood draws and TPN post flushes. Available with an order.

TO NOTE: Community Nurse will use their clinical judgement to flush central lines with fluid volumes between 10mL - 20mL considering the type/size of catheter, patient profile and type of infusion therapy. All Central Venous Catheter line kits deployed to South West LHIN patients consist of 2, 10 mL NS syringes to complete "Push-Pause" technique to the lines' port located closest to the patient.

December 2020 – the below message circulated from the South West Home and Community Care Support Services (formerly South West LHIN)

TO: Health System Stakeholders
FROM: Home & Community Care, South West LHIN
SUBJECT: Updates to Adult Standard Flush Protocol effective January 1st 2021

Attention IV Prescribers

Over the past year the South West LHIN has undertaken a systematic review to update our Adult Flush Protocol. These changes align with best practices guidelines, community agencies policies, and Canadian Vascular Access Association recommendations (CVAA).

As noted on our [IV Antibiotic Referral Form](#), the Standard Adult Flush protocol (above) is initiated as part of intravenous therapy, unless otherwise specified.

Summary of Changes

- Increasing NS volume from 10mL to 20mL for peripheral and central line flushes
- Clarifying terms, line types and removing any redundancy
- Specific locking solutions now require an order, including Heparin strength
- Inactive Midline flush is now daily, while orders to removal are pending