

I-DECIDED-PICC – A PICC Assessment and Decision Tool for Nurses

ASSESS

1. IDENTIFY if the patient has a device
 - Assess and document the presence of a PICC every shift (when accessing/de-accessing)
 - Assess arm circumference and visible catheter length according to hospital policy
 - Assess caps and lines to ensure there is no blood in the cap/line
2. DOES the patient need this device?
 - Why was the PICC placed? Is this indication still present?
 - Parenteral Nutrition
 - Chemotherapy
 - Medications Requiring Central Access/Vesicants
 - Frequent Blood Draws (not daily labs)
 - Is a safer vascular access device available for the indication?
 - Can the PICC be removed and replaced with a less invasive device?
3. EFFECTIVE flow, flush, and blood return?
 - Does each lumen of the PICC aspirate blood, flush, and infuse easily?
4. COMPLICATIONS or CONCERNS?
 - Does the patient have redness, swelling, discharge, hardness, palpable cord, or pain at the insertion site or along catheter?
 - Is the patient's arm circumference larger or is the visible/exposed catheter length increased since last documented?
 - If there are any complications or concerns noted at the PICC insertion site or extremity, consult with the treating team.
5. INFECTION prevent and awareness
 - Use Aseptic Non-Touch Technique
 - Perform hand hygiene before manipulating the PICC
 - Scrub the hub for 15 seconds and allow to dry before accessing
 - Does the patient have any signs/symptoms of infection or purulent drainage at the site?
6. DRESSING and securement?
 - Is the dressing clean, dry, and intact?
 - Replace dressing if it is damp, loose, or visibly soiled.
 - Is the PICC and attached IV lines properly secured?
 - Is an appropriate catheter securement device in use?
 - Secure as appropriate/needed
7. EVALUATE and EDUCATE
 - Evaluate patient/family understanding of need for PICC line and risks associated with treatment. Provide education
8. DOCUMENTATION
 - Document assessment findings and education
 - Discuss assessment and recommendations with treatment team as needed

DECIDE AND ACT in collaboration with treatment team

- Continue PICC use and reassessments
- Continue PICC – Dressing Changed and/or Securement Provided
- Continue PICC – intervention for catheter occlusion
- PICC exchanged to reduce number of lumens
- PICC removed and replaced with another vascular access device _____
- PICC removed