

## IV Flush Using the SAS Method

Follow these steps to help ensure your IV remains open:

*\*The blue injection cap will be referred to as “blue cap” in the instructions below.*

1. Prepare a clean work area.
2. Wash your hands well using a liquid soap. Be sure to wash all parts of your hands including the top and bottom, between fingers, and under fingernails. Use a paper towel to dry your hands. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if no soap and water are available.
3. Supplies needed:
  - Medicine
  - 2 prefilled saline syringes (0.9% sodium chloride) per each catheter line
  - Alcohol pads
4. Check the labels on the medicine for the following:
  - Correct patient name
  - Correct medication & dose
  - Expiration date
5. Wash hands and put on non-sterile gloves.

<b>S</b>	<b>Saline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Take the cap off of the <b>saline</b> syringe (0.9% sodium chloride). Do not touch the inside of the cap or the syringe tip to any surface.</li> <li>▪ Hold the syringe so the open tip points to the ceiling. Gently tap the side of the syringe to move any air bubbles to the top.</li> <li>▪ Push in the plunger until a drop of liquid appears at the open tip of the syringe.</li> <li>▪ Use a new alcohol pad to scrub the blue cap on the end of your IV line for 15-30 seconds. Let this air dry, do not fan or blow air on the blue cap.</li> <li>▪ Open the clamp on your IV line or extension set. Attach, push, and twist the end of the <b>saline</b> syringe (clockwise) onto the blue cap on your IV line.</li> <li>▪ Push the syringe plunger to flush the IV line using a start/stop action. Untwist the syringe to remove.</li> </ul>
<b>A</b>	<b>Administer</b> medicine or IV fluid	Administer the medicine as directed.
<b>S</b>	<b>Saline</b>	Repeat the steps above for the saline flush. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Remove the syringe and clamp the tubing.</li> <li>▪ Throw all used syringes in the household trash.</li> </ul>

Contact the Home Infusion nurse immediately if any of the following signs occur:

- Pain at IV site
- Redness at site
- Swelling or hardness around site
- Heat or coldness at site
- Leaking or drainage around IV site or dressing
- Difficulty flushing the IV

For questions or concerns, please call Regional Home+ Home Infusion at (605) 755-1150.