

PREVENTING INTRAVASCULAR DEVICE (IVD)-RELATED BLOODSTREAM INFECTIONS (BSIs)

ABOUT I-Care

I-Care Steps

Protect your patients and reduce the risk of blood stream infections by following the I-Care Steps when managing IV devices.

- I** IVD Management
- C** Clean your hands
- A** Access: Use alcoholic chlorhexidine to prepare the insertion site and use alcohol swabs to clean injection ports before accessing.
- R** Review the need for the IVD on a daily basis and remove the IVD when no longer needed.
- E** Educate everyone about I-Care – staff, patients and carers.

<http://www.health.qld.gov.au/chrisp/icare/about.asp>

The importance of the I-Care Program

On 1 July 2011 the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC) commenced as an independent statutory authority under the [National Health and Hospitals Network Act 2011](#). The ACSQHC commissioned the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare to develop a set of safety and quality indicators that reflected the direction of the ACSQHC's Information Strategy.

Subsequently, the ACSQHC introduced mandatory reporting of healthcare associated *Staphylococcus aureus* blood stream infections. Currently, only infections associated with care provided by acute care public hospitals are required to be monitored and reported by jurisdictions for inclusion in the National Health Care Agreements reporting system.

A key clinical indicator for the ACSQHC and the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards EQUIP5 are Central-Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSIs) within Intensive Care Units. Therefore, it is necessary that Queensland Health provide evidence based resources focusing on the important role that appropriate intravascular device (IVD) management plays within healthcare facilities.

What is I-Care?

In recent years, a large number of interventions have been developed to prevent healthcare associated intravascular device-related bloodstream infections. The CHRISP I-Care Project consolidated these interventions into one Standard and six Protocols, for the six main types of intravascular devices (IVD). The Standard and Protocols are specifically tailored for the Queensland Health environment. The purpose of the Standard and six Protocols is to provide evidence-based support to healthcare professionals related to the insertion and management of six intravascular devices. The I-Care standard and protocols were developed by critically appraising the literature including existing guidelines. Not included in the I-Care Standard and Protocols is information associated with the insertion and management of arterial, pulmonary artery and intraosseous catheters or pressure monitoring devices.

By using the acronym I-Care we are reinforcing the key steps healthcare professionals need to take to prevent intravascular device-related bloodstream infections that is - cleaning their hands, using alcoholic chlorhexidine to prepare the insertion site, using single-use 70% alcohol swabs to clean injection ports before accessing, reviewing the need for the IVD on a daily basis and removing it when no longer required, and educating everyone about I-Care.

What is the I-Care eToolkit?

The I-Care eToolkit provides you with the following resources to be implemented at the facility-level with the overall aim of preventing healthcare associated intravascular device-related infections:

- A Standard and Protocols for the following intravascular devices:
 - i. Percutaneous Central Venous Catheter (CVC)
 - ii. Tunnelled CVC
 - iii. Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC)
 - iv. Peripheral Intravenous Catheter (PIVC)
 - v. Haemodialysis Catheter
 - vi. Totally Implantable Central Venous Access Port (port)
- Procedure Compliance Checklists to aid clinicians with the review of processes related to the insertion and management of IVDs.
- Investigation Checklist for Healthcare Associated Intravascular Device-Related *Staphylococcus aureus* Bloodstream Infections.
- PowerPoint presentations which can be used to assist with educating staff on the insertion and management of IVDs.
- Insertion checklist
- Fact sheets for staff and patient brochure
- Posters
- Links to other key documents related to intravascular device infection prevention.

For further information and the I-Care eToolkit please visit <http://www.health.qld.gov.au/chrisp/icare/about.asp>