



## Tunneled Catheter - Transparent Dressing

2 masks

### PROCEDURE

1. Explain the procedure to the patient.
2. Put on mask; have patient put on mask or turn head away from the site, as appropriate.
3. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water. Dry with clean paper towel.
4. Working on a clean, dry surface, open pre-packaged dressing kit (or use supplies listed above); arrange supplies.
5. Loosen outer dressing being careful not to pull on the catheter. Put on sterile gloves and remove remainder of dressing, stabilizing catheter with gloved finger and pulling dressing off towards the exit site.
6. Inspect the site for edema, erythema, bleeding or exudate. Notify the physician if any of these signs are present.
7. Remove soiled gloves. Wash hands with sanitizing gel or soap and water.
8. Put on new pair of sterile gloves. Open package of chlorhexidine cleanser, alcohol or povidone-iodine swabsticks, as applicable.
9. Taking care not to dislodge the catheter, use firm pressure to scrub the skin around the catheter exit site, covering an area as large as the dressing to be applied. It is helpful to use an alcohol swabstick first, as this removes adhesive and oily deposits on the skin. Use the chlorhexidine cleanser next for approximately 30 seconds (or povidone-iodine for 2 minutes), allowing the solution to dry thoroughly before proceeding.
10. If desired, a skin protective solution such as Skin-Prep® may be applied to the cleansed area. Allow to dry thoroughly. Apply anti-microbial or Chlorhexidine disc.
11. Apply transparent dressing to the catheter exit site following instructions on dressing package. Secure the edge of the dressing with a split piece of tape to occlude the border where the catheter exits from the dressing.
12. Coil the exposed length of the catheter over the dressing and tape securely. This dressing allows for daily observation of the exit site without removal of the dressing.

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13. Document the procedure in the patient's medical record.

### RESPONSIBILITY

The Clinical Specialist has the responsibility for approval of, compliance with, and revisions to this policy.

### MODIFICATION/REVISION

This policy is subject to modification or revision in part or its entirety to reflect changes in conditions subsequent to the effective date of this policy.

### REFERENCES

1. Infusion Nursing Standards of Practice – Revised 2016; Journal of Infusion Nursing, Supplement to January/February 2016, Volume 39, Number 1S.
2. Infusion Nursing: An Evidence-Based Approach, Third Edition edited by Mary Alexander, Ann Corrigan, Lisa Gorski, Judy Hankins, and Roxanne Perucca.
3. INS (Infusion Nurses Society) Policies and Procedures for Infusion Nursing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.