

REMOVING YOUR PERIPHERALLY INSERTED CENTRAL CATHETER

TRANSCRIPT

With proper use and care, your peripherally inserted central catheter can make long-term treatment more comfortable.

Throughout your time with a PICC line, you have been careful to keep your PICC line working well. You have flushed your line regularly before and after giving medications or fluids, after drawing blood, once in the morning and once at night when the PICC line is not in use, changed the injection cap and dressings every 7 days, and watched for signs of infection.

Although a PICC line can be used for long-term care, it is not designed to be used forever. Eventually, it will need to be removed.

A trained member of your healthcare team will remove your PICC line safely. It is not painful and can be done as an outpatient procedure. Once it is removed, your healthcare provider will apply pressure to the insertion site and cover it with a dressing to prevent infection as it heals.

Your healthcare provider will give you specific instructions on how to care for your insertion site after your PICC line is removed. Follow these guidelines to allow your site to heal properly.