

REMOVING YOUR IMPLANTED ACCESS PORT

TRANSCRIPT

With proper use and care, an implanted access port can make long-term treatment more comfortable.

Throughout your time with an implanted port you have been careful to keep your port working well. You have had your port flushed regularly; before and after medications or fluids, after drawing blood, at least once a month, if not in use.

If you kept your needle in, you made sure you followed your healthcare provider's instructions on how often to change your dressings.

You made sure your needle was changed every 7 days. You watched for signs of infection. And you talked to your healthcare provider if you had any questions or concerns.

Although an implanted access port 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 port safely.

Depending on your age, the depth of the port, and how long it has been in place, your port may be able to be removed with only local anesthetics, but some may require removal in the operating room. Talk to your healthcare provider about how your port will be removed.

Once it is removed, your insertion site will be covered with a dressing to prevent infection as the site heals.

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