

PICCs, Ports & Hickmans

- Maru Okay, today we're here to talk to you about PICCs, Ports, and Hickmans. Bet you don't know what those are, eh?
- Lana To help you get better, we may need to give you medicine "intravenously," which means "in your veins."
- Lucy IV is short for "intravenous."
- Lana IVs are temporary and for short-term use. If you're going to need treatment for more than a few days, we'll often use something called a "central line."
- Lana IVs go into small veins, and central lines go into bigger "central" veins. Let's talk about the 3 most common types of central lines we use: PICCs, Ports and Hickmans.
- Dr. Gimble A peripherally inserted central catheter is commonly called a PICC or a PICC line.
- Dr. Gimble A PICC is inserted into a "peripheral vein." Those are the smaller veins further way from the heart and often nearer to the skin, like those in your arms.
- Dr. Gimble And then the PICC line is slid toward the heart through increasingly larger veins.
- Dr. Gimble Sometimes kids get sedation medicine when they get a central line, but not always. Of course, if you have any questions, just ask.
- Maru A port - or portacath -- is a catheter that is surgically implanted under the skin.
- Maru And it has a reservoir compartment with a silicone bubble and we inject the medicine into the port...
- Maru And this tube -- called the catheter -- carries the medicine to a major vein so it can be circulated throughout your whole body.
- Maru The port is completely under your skin, so can go swimming, can - can bathe. No problem!
- Maru A Hickman looks like this. Now this instrument allows us to give medicine and draw blood for testing.
- Lana Your care team will talk to you if you need to have a PICC, Port, or Hickman.

PICCs, Ports & Hickmans

Lucy These devices are used to reduce the number of “pokes” we have to give you.

Lana And as always...if you have any questions, just ask!