

IV-WISE patient discussion tool

This tool* provides key discussion points for clinicians and patients to help involve patients in their care and prevent PIVC-related complications.

What clinicians should discuss with patients: **What patients can ask and do:**

I Intravenous access needs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss why IV fluids or medicines are needed Explain how the PIVC will be inserted Ask patients about their PIVC history and any current needs. 	<p>Tell your healthcare team about your past experiences including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Difficulty inserting a PIVC Anything that has worked well Your preference or any physical problems that could affect where the PIVC is placed Any allergies you have, such as to tapes and dressings.
V Vascular access checks	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise that the PIVC will be checked regularly Ask patients to report any concerns or any problems they notice (e.g. redness, swelling). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your clinician will regularly check your PIVC Tell your clinician if you have any concerns or notice any problems.
W What patients can do to reduce the risk of complications	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise patients what they can do to help reduce the risk of PIVC-related complications and infection Provide patients with the 'Looking after your cannula' information sheet. 	<p>To help to look after your PIVC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the PIVC from knocks or being pulled Wear loose clothing so that the PIVC does not get caught Keep the PIVC dry while washing and showering Ensure that the protective dressing stays in place.
I Infection risk	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss how to prevent infection. 	<p>To prevent infection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep your hands clean by washing with soap or using sanitiser Do not touch, fiddle with, or move the device.
S Signs and symptoms of complications	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the signs and symptoms to look out for When removing the PIVC, advise patients that symptoms can occur up to 48 hours later and what to do. 	<p>Tell your clinician as soon as possible about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Redness, pain or swelling at the insertion site Feeling hot, cold or shivery Leakage from the device The dressing getting wet, bloodstained or loose.
E Expected removal	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell patients when the PIVC is expected to be removed (e.g. when therapy is finished). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If your PIVC has not been used in the last 24 hours, ask if you still need it If you are going home and your PIVC is still in place, ask your clinician if it can be removed.

*Developed by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, 2021.