

PROCEDURE FOR INTRATHECAL DRESSING AND BAG CHANGE

Two nurses should perform this procedure so one can maintain sterility of equipment – preferably district nurse plus specialist palliative care nurse

Equipment

- 1 dressing pack
- 3 SOLU-IV swabsticks
- 1 epifix dressing
- 1 packet of (5) gauze squares
- 3 10 x10 tegaderm
- 1 Pump tubing with 0.22 micron inline filter
- Sterile gloves



Sterile Nurse	Second Nurse
Wash hands and prepare sterile area	Open outer packets of gauze, Epifix™ dressing, comfeel and tegaderm, pump tubing with inline filter and place on sterile area
Use forceps to hold catheter in place then discard forceps	Carefully remove outer dressings ensuring the catheter is not withdrawn
<p>DRESSING</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clean exit site with solu-IV swab sticks in circular motion working outwards allowing 30 seconds between swabs and cleaning 2. Ensure filter end remains on sterile field 3. Place Epifix™ dressing over exit site (follow numbered instructions on outside of packet) 4. Carefully coil extra catheter under tegaderm as shown 5. Place comfeel on abdominal wall where filters will lie 6. In conjunction with second nurse change tubing once line is primed (disconnect old tubing and hand to second nurse and sterile nurse attaches new tube) 7. Secure in place with tegaderm 8. Check prescription settings are correct on the pump with the second nurse 9. The filter attached to the intrathecal line does NOT need to be changed at each dressing change unless the thread becomes worn or CSF withdrawal is required (see below) 10. Patient may require bolus after the dressing as the pump will have been turned off 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove old tubing and bag from BodyGuard 545™ pump. 2. Insert new bag and tubing in to pump as per pump instructions and prime tubing ensuring all air is removed from line (tap inline filter as it is priming) It may require two prime cycles. 3. Check prescription settings are correct on the pump with the sterile nurse 4. Discard old filter and tubing

After the dressing is completed both nurses should ensure all clamps are off and the BodyGuard 545™ pump started and running correctly – do check list.

Cerebro Spinal Fluid (CSF) SAMPLE

If it is necessary to take a sample of CSF the above dressing technique should be observed to stage 5 and a clean filter should be attached to the new tubing and primed through as per stage 2 (second nurse). **Ensure filter remains on sterile field and is only handled by scrubbed nurse during the priming then:**

- Remove existing permanent filter (discard) and attach 1ml sterile syringe directly to catheter
- Gently withdraw 1 ml of fluid and discard
- Attach a new 1 ml sterile syringe and gently withdraw 1 ml of CSF and then attach new primed filter and tubing as per stage 6
- Transfer CSF to appropriate culture jar and second nurse will take this and organise sending to the laboratory
- Complete dressing
- Patient will require a clinician assisted bolus of 1ml to replace the medications in the catheter or they will have a delay in receiving medications of up to at least 2 hours

