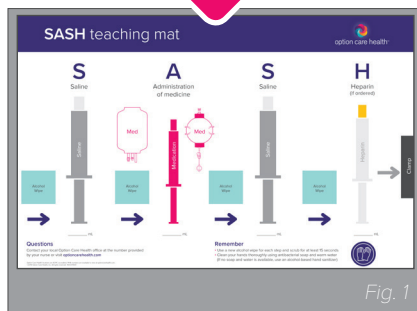


# IV Medication Administration: Using Flow-Rate Controller

Please refer to your “Patient Guide to Infusion Therapy” booklet for additional information.

*This information is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice. Always do what your doctor, nurse or pharmacist recommends.*



## Getting started

- Remove medication from refrigerator at least \_\_\_\_ (minutes/hours) prior to use. Consult medication label for time required for your medication
- **NEVER** speed the warming process by heating or microwaving the medication
- Use a clean work area
- Clean your hands thoroughly using antibacterial soap and warm water (if no soap and water is available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer)
- Dry your hands with a clean towel

## 1 | Gather your supplies and prepare your SASH mat as instructed:

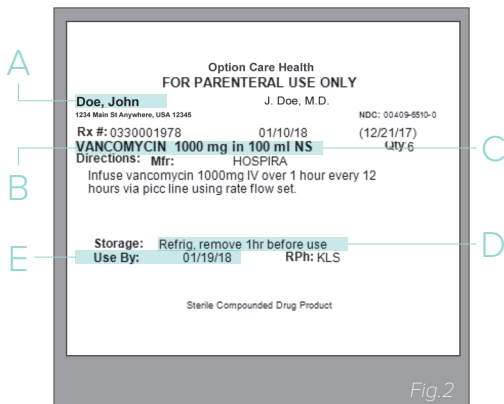
- SASH mat (See Fig. 1)
- IV medication bag
- IV tubing with flow-rate controller (may be used for 24 hours)
- IV pole
- Flush syringes
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL saline
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL D5W
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL of heparin \_\_\_\_\_ units/mL heparin
- Alcohol wipes
- Sharps container (if needed) and/or trash container

## 2 | Inspect medication bag

Inspect the medication bag. Check the label on the bag (See Fig. 2) and verify:

- Correct name of patient
- Correct name of medication
- Volume/amount of medication
- Time required to warm medication to room temperature
- Use by date of medication

Medication bag should be free of leaks, floating particles or discoloration. Call your nurse or pharmacist if there are problems with the medication bag or anything on the label is incorrect.

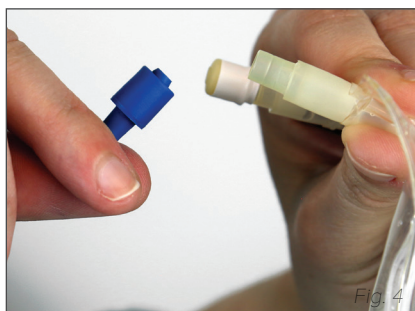


For demonstration purposes, follow the instructions on YOUR medication bag.



## 3 | Prepare your flush syringes

- A. Prior to using syringe, push firmly on the thumb press with the tip cap still on, just until you feel the plunger move.
- B. Expel air and excess solution by twisting off tip cap and pushing plunger forward. Push out extra solution to the amount instructed by your nurse. (See Fig. 3)
- C. Replace the syringe cap, being careful not to touch the tip of the syringe with your hand. If you touch it, you will need to start over with a clean syringe. Set aside syringe until you are ready to use it.
- D. Repeat for all flush syringes needed for dose.

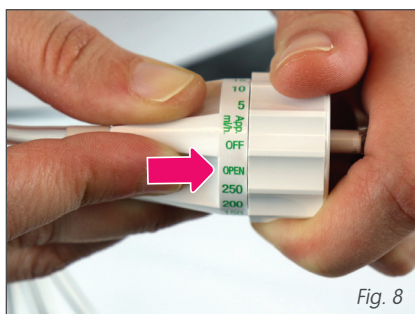


## 4 | Prepare your IV medication/prime your IV tubing

- A. Remove IV tubing from its package. Close the clamp on the tubing.
- B. Place the medication bag on a clean flat surface.
- C. Remove the tab from the medication bag. (See Fig. 4)
- D. Remove the cover from the spike of the tubing. (See Fig. 5)  
**DO NOT** touch the end.



# IV Medication Administration: Using Flow-Rate Controller



## 4 | Prepare your IV medication/prime your IV tubing *Continued...*

- E. Spike the bag by pushing and twisting the end of the tubing into the bag. (See Fig. 6) Make sure the spike reaches the medication in the bag and be careful not to puncture the bag.
- F. Hang the IV medication container on the IV pole. Gently squeeze the drip chamber to fill it about  $\frac{1}{2}$  full of fluid. **DO NOT** overfill. (See Fig. 7)
- G. Turn the IV tubing dial to '**OPEN**.' (See Fig. 8) Slowly open the clamp to prime the tubing (filling the tubing with medication). When the medication reaches the end of the tubing, close the clamp.
- H. Adjust the IV tubing dial to set the correct rate for your IV infusion.  
(Your rate is \_\_\_\_\_ mL/hour.)



## 5 | Flush your IV line with saline

Using one of your prepared saline syringes from step #3.

- A. Scrub the needleless connector on your IV catheter with an alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. (See Fig. 9)
- B. Remove the protective cap from the saline flush syringe. **DO NOT** touch the syringe tip after removing the cap.

Discard the saline flush syringe if the uncapped sterile tip touches any unclean surface.



- C. Attach the saline flush syringe to the needleless connector on your IV catheter using a push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. (See Fig. 10)
- D. Open the clamp on your IV catheter and/or IV extension set, if indicated.
- E. Flush your IV catheter using a "**push/pause**" method. **DO NOT** attempt to flush if resistance is met; call your nurse or pharmacist.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL saline
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL D5W
- F. Remove and discard the saline flush syringe in a trash container.

# IV Medication Administration: Using Flow-Rate Controller

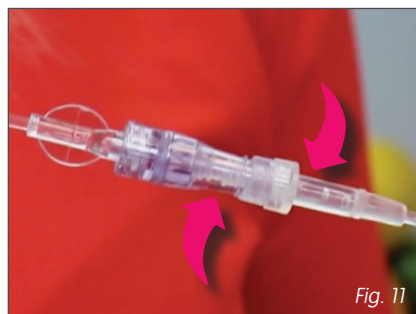
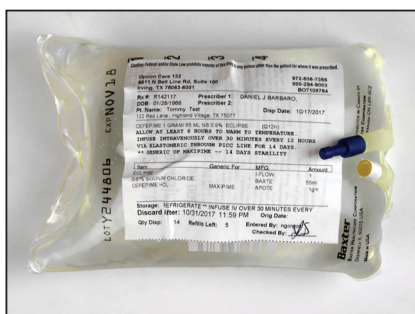


Fig. 11



## 6 | Administer your medication

- Scrub the needleless connector on your IV catheter with an alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. (See Fig. 9)
- Remove the protective cap from the IV tubing.
- Attach the IV tubing firmly to the needleless connector on your IV catheter using a push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. (See Fig. 11)
- Open the clamp on your IV catheter and/or IV extension set, if indicated.
- Check your infusion consistently to make sure it is running correctly. Adjust the dial on the IV tubing if needed.
- Once the prescribed dose has infused, close the clamp on the IV tubing.
- Disconnect the IV tubing once the prescribed dose has been given. Discard all equipment as directed in a trash container.

If the tubing is to be used again within 24 hours, cover the exposed IV tubing tip with a sterile cap provided.

## 7 | Flush your IV line with saline

Using one of your prepared saline syringes from step #3.

- Scrub the needleless connector on your IV catheter with an alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. (See Fig. 9)
- Remove the protective cap from the saline flush syringe. **DO NOT** touch the syringe tip after removing the cap.

Discard the saline flush syringe if the uncapped sterile tip touches any unclean surface.

- Attach the saline flush syringe to the needleless connector on your IV catheter using a push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. (See Fig. 10)
- Flush your IV catheter using a “push/pause” method. **DO NOT** attempt to flush if resistance is met; call your nurse or pharmacist.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL saline
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL D5W
- Close the clamp on your IV catheter and/or IV extension set unless you have been instructed to use heparin.
- Remove and discard the saline flush syringe in a trash container.

## 8 | Flush your IV line with heparin (if ordered)

Using your prepared heparin syringe from step #3.

- A. Scrub the needleless connector on your IV catheter with an alcohol wipe for at least **15 SECONDS** and allow to air dry. (See Fig. 9)
- B. Remove the protective cap from the heparin flush syringe.  
**DO NOT** touch the syringe tip after removing the cap.

Discard the heparin flush syringe if the uncapped sterile tip touches any unclean surface.

- C. Attach the heparin flush syringe to the needleless connector on your IV catheter using a push and clockwise twisting motion until secured together. (See Fig. 10)
- D. Flush your IV catheter using a “push/pause” method. **DO NOT** attempt to flush if resistance is met; call your nurse or pharmacist.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ mL of heparin \_\_\_\_\_ units/mL heparin
- E. Close the clamp on your IV catheter and/or IV extension set, if indicated.
- F. Remove and discard the heparin flush syringe in a trash container.

Call your nurse  
or doctor with  
any questions or  
concerns



Your Option Care Health  
team is available on call  
24/7/365 to assist you.

To view video instructions and access additional educational resources,  
visit [optioncarehealth.com/education](https://optioncarehealth.com/education).

### (SASH) Procedure Summary:

- Flush IV with \_\_\_\_\_ mL **(S)**aline or D5W
- **(A)**dminister medication over \_\_\_\_ minutes \_\_\_\_ hours
- Flush with \_\_\_\_\_ mL **(S)**aline or D5W
- Flush with \_\_\_\_\_ mL **(H)**eparin, if ordered



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