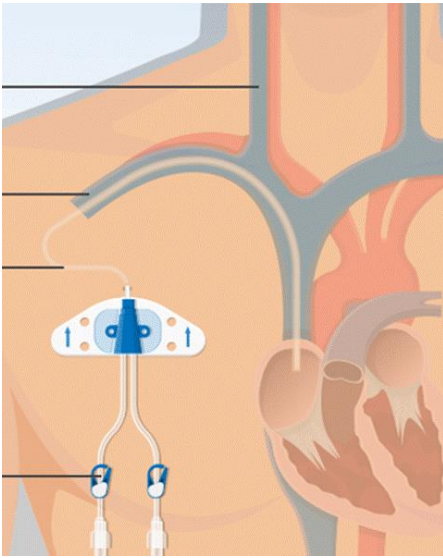


Hickman Catheter and Port-a-Cath

Hickman catheters can be accessed and maintained the same as PICC lines unless they are specifically identified as being used for dialysis or chemotherapy.



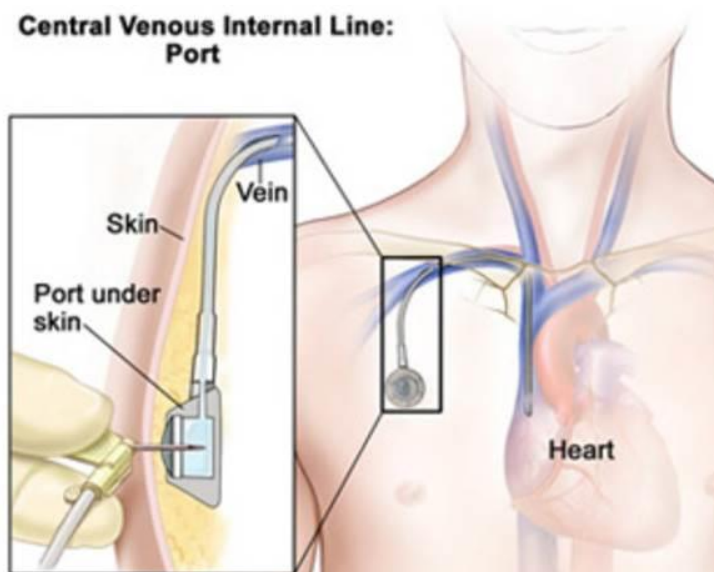
A **Hickman catheter** is a central line inserted into the subclavian or internal jugular veins, which are then tunneled out to the chest.

If you receive a patient that arrives with one in place (on admission), the hospital standard is:

- X-Ray confirmation, and
- An order from the physician confirming that the line is safe to use.

All central line dressings and flushes are the same as those for PICC lines.

Hickman catheters are not the same as implanted ports (Port-a-Cath).



Port-a-Cath (implanted ports) are only accessed by the **Vascular Access Support Team (VAST)**; However, once accessed, you can use the ports like you do any other central line.

Standard care does not require continuous fluid running and they can be saline locked when not in use.

Treat the dressing and site like any other central line dressing.