

## PATIENT GUIDE

# Gravity Infusion with Flow Regulator

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The Physician has prescribed you to administer \_\_\_\_\_

### Gather Supplies

- Medication – Medication(s) should always be infused at room temperature. If the medication requires refrigeration, remove it from the refrigerator 1-2 hours prior to administration.
- \_\_ Prefilled Sodium Chloride Syringes
- \_\_ Prefilled Heparin Syringe \_\_\_u/mL, if ordered
- Alcohol Pads
- V Administration Set with Flow Regulator (IV tubing)
- IV Pole or S-hook
- Protective Cap – Only needed if medication is prescribed more than once per day.

### Preparing and Infusing Medication

1. After gathering the supplies above, prepare a clean, flat surface and wash hands.
2. Check the medication ball to ensure:
  - The patient name is correct,
  - The medication and dose are correct,
  - Expiration or Use By date has not passed,
  - Inspect bag for leaks, cracks, particulate matter and clarity of medication/solution.
  - If medication requires mixing, refer to **applicable teach sheet** for instructions.
3. Remove air bubbles from syringes. Refer to **Patient Infusion Welcome Packet** for instructions.
4. Prepare Flow Regulator – Open package. Remove paper tab. Locate & slide pinch clamp up tubing then close pinch clamp. Set flow dial to “OPEN”.
5. Remove protective cap from medication bag (it will not leak).
6. Remove protective cap from IV tubing spike and insert straight into medication bag with a pushing and twisting motion.
7. Hang medication bag on IV pole or S-hook. IV pole/S-hook should be raised to a least 6 feet high.
8. Squeeze drip chamber and fill chamber ½ full with medication.
9. Open pinch clamp on tubing and allow medication to run through tubing until a few drops come out of the end.

10. Close pinch clamp on IV tubing.
11. Turn flow regulator dial to \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Scrub the hub of the needleless connector on the IV line for 15 seconds with an alcohol pad. Allow to air dry.
13. Attach Prefilled Sodium Chloride Syringe by pushing and twisting to the right.
14. Unclamp the clamp on the IV line and slowly push the end of the syringe plunger using a “push-pause” method.
15. Remove the empty Sodium Chloride Syringe from the IV line.
16. Scrub the hub of the needleless connector on the line for 15 seconds with an alcohol pad. Allow to air dry.
17. Attach IV tubing to IV line by pushing and twisting to the right.
18. Open pinch clamp on IV tubing and observe medication infusing by looking for drips in the drip chamber.

## **When Infusion Completed**

1. Wash hands.
2. Close pinch clamp on IV tubing and disconnect IV tubing from IV line.
3. Scrub the hub of the needleless connector on the line for 15 seconds with an alcohol pad. Allow to air dry.
4. Attach Prefilled Sodium Chloride Syringe by pushing and twisting to the right and slowly push the end of the syringe plunger using a “push-pause” method.
5. Remove the empty Sodium Chloride Syringe from the IV line.
6. Scrub the hub of the needleless connector on the line for 15 seconds with an alcohol pad. Allow to air dry.
7. If ordered, attach Prefilled Heparin Syringe by pushing and twisting to the right and slowly push the end of the syringe plunger.
8. Re-clamp clamp on the IV line.
9. Remove the empty Heparin Syringe from the IV line.
10. If therapy is prescribed for more than once a day, leave empty medication bag on IV pole with tubing attached. Protect the end of the IV tubing with a protective cap.
11. Dispose of all supplies – syringes, tubing, empty medication bags – in regular garbage.

## **Questions, Concerns or Problems**

Should there be any questions, concerns or problems related to medication administration or the IV line contact the home care agency \_\_\_\_\_ or Upstate HomeCare.