



St. Clair County Medical Control
Community Paramedicine
IV Catheter Changes

Initial: March 2025

Section 11-42

IV Catheter Starts & Changes

Indications: This protocol provides guidance for the insertion, removal, and reinsertion of intravenous (IV) catheters under the Community Paramedicine Program. The CP will respond to a residence for insertion, removal, and reinsertion of IV catheters on request from the primary care provider, on request by the patient through 911 triage or on referral from ALS 911 response.

Purpose: To insert, remove and reinsert IV catheters for the purpose of new or continuing IV access and avoidance of possible local and systemic infections and/or patient discomfort.

CP Directives:

1. Follow General Protocol for CP Patient Assessments as indicated.
2. Obtain and review patient health history and primary care provider's orders prior to evaluation when available.
3. Be aware of complications of long-term catheter use and effects of termination of IV. Educate patient on signs of infection.
4. Take into account certain medications, which could lead to uncontrolled bleeding.
5. Using universal precautions, insert or remove and reinsert the IV catheter. Assure patency with flush and blood return.
6. Communicate any unusual findings with PCP or on-line medical direction.