

CICU line policy

General points:

- there is a dedicated central venous line trolley on CICU – please, use it. (DO NOT move the central venous trolley to the bedside; use small trolleys to set up your sterile field)
- need for a line has to be critically assessed!
- line replacement: old catheter will be removed and replaced with a new one in different site. Change of the catheter over the wire is only suitable for patients where there is no suspicion of line infection (i.e. the reason for CVL change is mechanical).
- line that is leaking from the insertion site must be replaced as soon as possible.
- use ultrasound guidance where appropriate
- currently, only heparin bonded CVL should be used on CICU.

Line insertion technique:

- use maximal sterile barriers (sterile gown, sterile gloves, mask and large enough sterile drape) !!!
- skin should be cleaned with **alcoholic solution of 2%chlorhexidine and allowed to dry !!! Do not use betadine!**
- catheter site dressing must be transparent and water vapour permeable. use Opsite IV300 or Tegaderm IV.
- where the CVL insertion site is bleeding, sterile gauze dressing can be used (but changed for transparent as soon as possible).
- line insertion must be documented in the notes.

(NOTE: the same applies for arterial lines - can be also source of infection)

I have read and understood the above.

Name:

Signature:

Date:

(SIGN AND RETURN TO WARD ADMINISTRATOR EAMONN CONNERY . PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT LINE INSERTION ON CICU UNTIL THIS PROTOCOL READ AND SIGNED.)