

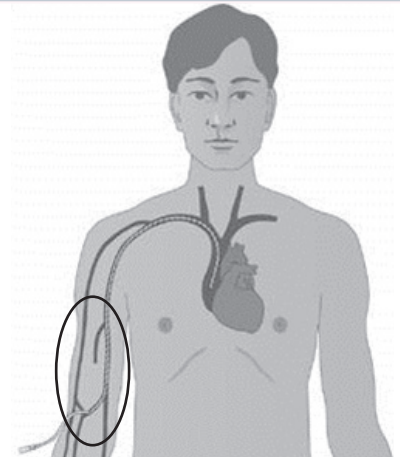
# PICC Removal

## (Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter)

### Why do I need to have my PICC removed?

Your PICC is removed if your:

- treatment is finished.
- remaining treatment doesn't need a PICC.
- PICC has developed problems.



### What will happen before my procedure?

- You may eat and drink as you normally do.
- Your healthcare provider will review your chart and do an assessment before your PICC is removed.

### What will happen at my procedure?

Your procedure will take about 30 minutes while you are seated or lying down. You will not need a local anesthetic.

Your health care provider will:

- put a warm compress on your PICC site for 10 to 15 minutes.
- clean your PICC site to prevent infection.
- remove your PICC by using a slow, “pulling” motion.

### Will the procedure hurt?

You will feel some pressure, pulling or both during the procedure, but you should not feel pain. If you do feel pain, tell your health care provider.

## What will happen after the procedure?

- Your health care provider will apply firm pressure for about 5 to 10 minutes to the site until the bleeding stops.
- After the bleeding stops, your health care provider will put a bandage over the site.
- A nurse will tell you when you may leave and will check that the site is not bleeding.
- You will be able to drive yourself home.

## How do I care for the site when I get home?

- Do not shower for 24 hours.
- Do not lift anything 10 lbs (4.5 kg) or more for 24 hours.
- Keep the area covered, clean and dry for 24 hours to let the site heal.

## It's been 24 hours since my procedure. What should I do now?

You may:

- remove the bandage.
- go back to your normal tasks.

### What do I need to watch for?

1. If the site begins to bleed, lie on your back and apply pressure to the site for at least 5 minutes until it stops bleeding. Call telephone triage.

**If the bleeding does not stop, go to the nearest emergency room.**

2. Watch the site for signs of infection. This may include:

- Fever
- Redness at the site
- Swelling at the site
- Discharge from the site

Call the Chemotherapy Symptoms line if you have any of these symptoms. After hours, go to your nearest emergency room.



### Chemotherapy Symptoms

8:00 am - 4:00 pm

403-521-3735

Toll Free 1-866-283-3735