

Patient information

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Children going home with an IV cannula in place

Your child's Doctor has requested that they go home with an Intravenous (IV) cannula left in place. This is usually because they need on-going IV medications but do not need to stay in hospital.



Care of the cannula at home

At home you should keep the cannula clean, dry and covered by the dressing and bandage that we have applied at all times. This is to prevent both infection and the cannula from falling out.

If you need to bath/shower your child whilst their cannula is in place then we advise placing a plastic bag over the limb or cling film over the area to stop it from becoming wet from splashing but do not lower the limb/site under/into the water. Please do not place any extra dressings, bandages or splints over the cannula site other than the one we have applied.

If the cannula does accidentally fall out then place a clean dry piece of gauze over the site and press firmly for 2 minutes or until any bleeding stops.

If you have any concerns or need any further advice please do not hesitate to contact us on 01284 713315.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the hospital website www.wsh.nhs.uk and click on the link, or visit the disabledgo website:

<http://www.disabledgo.com/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust/main>

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