

If your medicine is stored in the refrigerator, you may take the next dose out to let it warm to **room temperature** several hours prior to giving it, as directed on your medication label.

Do not heat the medicine ball in a microwave oven, direct sunlight, hot water or any other heat source. Heating may damage the medicine ball and make it harmful.

- If you forget to take your medicine ball out of the refrigerator, it is still okay to infuse. **Do not change your scheduled dosing times.**
- If the medicine is cold, you may experience a cooling sensation in your arm and your infusion time will be longer than usual. This is not harmful.

Do not shower while your medication is infusing.

Follow these instructions with every infusion.

❖ The needleless blue connector cap will be referred to as “blue cap” in the instructions below.

1. Wash your hands well using a liquid soap for at least 20 seconds. Be sure to wash all parts of your hands including the top and bottom, between fingers, and under fingernails. **Use a paper towel to dry your hands.** You may use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if your hands are not visibly dirty.
2. Prepare a clean work area: wipe the surface with a disinfecting wipe or soapy water.
3. Gather needed supplies and place them on your clean work area, on a clean paper towel:
 - Medicine - check the medicine label to make sure the following are correct:
 - ✓ Patient name and date of birth
 - ✓ Medicine name and dose
 - ✓ Number of times the medicine is given each day
 - ✓ Hold the medicine up to the light and make sure it hasn't changed color and that it doesn't have any particles floating in it. **If you see this, do not use the medicine and call Home+ Home Infusion at 755-1150.**
 - Alcohol pads
 - Gloves
 - 2 prefilled saline syringes (0.9% sodium chloride)
 - 1 prefilled heparin syringe (if needed)
4. Wash your hands again and put on gloves.
5. Tap the saline syringe firmly against your hand to move any air bubbles to the top. Take the cap off of the saline syringe. Do not touch the syringe tip. **If the tip is touched, throw it away and use another one.** Pull the plunger down to loosen the rubber stopper.
6. Hold the syringe so the tip points to the ceiling. Push the plunger up to remove the air until you see a drop of saline at the tip of the syringe.
7. Use a new alcohol pad to scrub the blue cap on the end of your IV line for 5-15 seconds. Let this air dry. Do not fan or blow air on the blue cap.
8. Attach the end of the saline syringe to the blue cap on your IV line (push and twist clockwise). Open the clamp(s) on your IV line or tubing.

9. Push the syringe plunger using a start/stop pulsing motion. Do 10 quick pulses of about 1 mL each, stopping briefly between each pulse. Leave about ½ mL of saline in the syringe. Remove the syringe.
10. If the medicine ball tubing is not primed follow these steps:
 - Loosen the cap that is on the end of the medicine ball tubing.
 - Open the clamp and wait until you see a drop of medicine at the end of the tubing. Allow the tubing to fill with medicine.
 - When you see the drop at the end of the tubing, quickly close the clamp.
11. Use a new alcohol pad to scrub the blue cap on the end of your IV line for 5-15 seconds. Let this air dry, do not fan or blow air on the blue cap.
12. Remove the cap that is on the end of the medicine ball tubing. **Do not touch the tip of the tubing.** Connect the tubing to the blue cap on your IV line until it's secure.
13. Open the clamp on the medicine ball. Your infusion should take about _____ minutes. The ball will be flat and shriveled when it is empty.
14. When the infusion is complete, **wash your hands and put on new gloves.** Close the clamp on the medicine ball. Remove the tubing from your IV line by turning it to the left (counterclockwise).
15. Prepare the saline syringe and remove the air bubbles by following steps 5-6 above.
16. Use a new alcohol pad to scrub the blue cap on the end of your IV line for 5-15 seconds. Let this air dry, do not fan or blow air on the cap.
17. Attach the end of the saline syringe to the blue cap on your IV line (push and twist clockwise).
18. Push the plunger using a start/stop pulsing motion as described in step 9. Leave about ½ mL of saline in the syringe. If you will not need heparin, remove the syringe and clamp the tubing.
19. If you will need heparin, prepare the heparin syringe by following steps 5-6 above. Use a new alcohol pad to scrub the blue cap on the end of your IV line for 5-15 seconds. Let this air dry, do not fan or blow air on the blue cap.
20. Attach the end of the heparin syringe to the blue cap on your IV line (push and twist clockwise). Slowly push the plunger. Leave about ½ mL of heparin in the syringe. Remove the syringe and clamp the tubing.
21. Throw your used supplies into the household trash unless you are told not to. You may want to remove the yellow label from the medicine ball and shred it or cross it out as it contains personal information.
 - ❖ **Flush all IV lines twice daily unless told differently by your nurse.**
 - ❖ **Always flush the IV line(s) in this sequence after giving your medication:**
 - flush
 - remove the syringe
 - clamp
 - ❖ **Always keep the line clamped when not in use.**
 - ❖ **Wipe ONLY the blue cap with alcohol. The tip of the saline syringe and the tip of the medicine ball tubing are sterile and do not need to be cleaned.**

Regional Home+ Home Infusion (605) 755-1150