9J – INDWELLING CENTRAL VASCULAR DEVICE MANAGEMENT ADULT & PEDIATRIC

PARAMEDIC

Indications:

Use and/or monitoring of indwelling central venous devices.

Contraindications:

1. Central venous ports – easily permanently damaged with wrong needle or infected.
2. Suspected infection in the indwelling central venous devices.
3. Easy peripheral venous access available or already established.

Technique:

Indwelling central venous devices may become irreversibly damaged if wrong needles and techniques occur. In general, avoid the use of indwelling central venous devices unless already in use (during an interfacility transfer) or in the case of a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) line, peripheral venous access is not readily available or already established.

In the setting of interfacility transfer, indwelling central venous device(s) must be reviewed with either the transferring practitioner/physician or appropriate nursing personnel prior to conducting the interfacility transfer. Potential complications during transfer should be discussed and contingency plans reviewed.

During packaging, patient movement, and throughout the interfacility transfer, perform periodic inspection and assessment of indwelling central venous devices and take precautions to avoid inadvertent dislodgement of such devices.

If the need arises to access a PICC line, clean the port with ChloraPrep®, Betadine®, or an alcohol wipe. Aspirate 4 - 5 mL of fluid and discard (to remove any anticoagulant in the line) prior to infusing fluid or administering medication. Flush 10 mL of saline in the PICC line after administering a medication. Maintain aseptic technique throughout all handling of the PICC line.

If a closed cap on the line is required to be removed to access the indwelling central venous device, make sure the line is clamped to avoid introduction of an air embolus.

Contact OLMC early for any needed advice or direction in the use of an indwelling central venous device.