

# Changing Your Bandage

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## Central IV Line Care

1. Clean the table top with a home cleaner and water, alcohol or bleach wipes, and let it air dry.
  2. Wash your hands for 15 seconds with liquid soap and water. Dry them well.
  3. Gather supplies: Bandage change kit **Or**
    - Transparent or gauze bandage
    - Anti-germ scrubber
    - Anti-germ patch
    - Securing device or tape
    - Mask
  4. Open your bandage change kit. Or tear open the wrappers of your supplies, but leave items in the wrappers.
  5. You should wear a mask for the first 3 weeks you have a central line. Your health care team may suggest that you always wear a mask.
  6. The patient should turn their head away during the bandage change or put on a mask.
  7. If you have a kit, spread the paper cloth on the table and place your supplies on it. If you do not have a kit, take each item from the wrapper as you use it.
  8. Remove the old bandage, the patch and the securing device if present and throw them away.
  9. Wash your hands again. Look where the line enters the skin for signs of infection: redness, puffiness, or drainage. If you see any of these signs, or the patient reports new soreness, call the number below.
  10. Scrub in a 2-inch circle around the point where the line enters the skin. Use the scrubber (unless allergic). Pinch the wings of the scrubber to make it work and scrub for 30 seconds. Do not touch the sponge with your fingers.
  11. Allow the area to air dry. This may take a full minute. Do not fan or blow on the area.
  12. Put on the anti-germ patch (slit facing down, print facing out). If you have a securing device, put it on.
  13. Put on the bandage.
- Change a **clear bandage** every 7 days. Change a **gauze bandage** every other day. Also, change the bandage when it's loose, wet or dirty.
- Protect the line during showers and bathing.
- Put Aquagard or other plastic wrap over the bandage to keep it dry.
  - Do not soak the area in a bath or shower or point the shower spray at the line.
- If you have any problems, please call:
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