

# Instructions for IV Medicine Ball

(Elastomeric Device)

## For every infusion

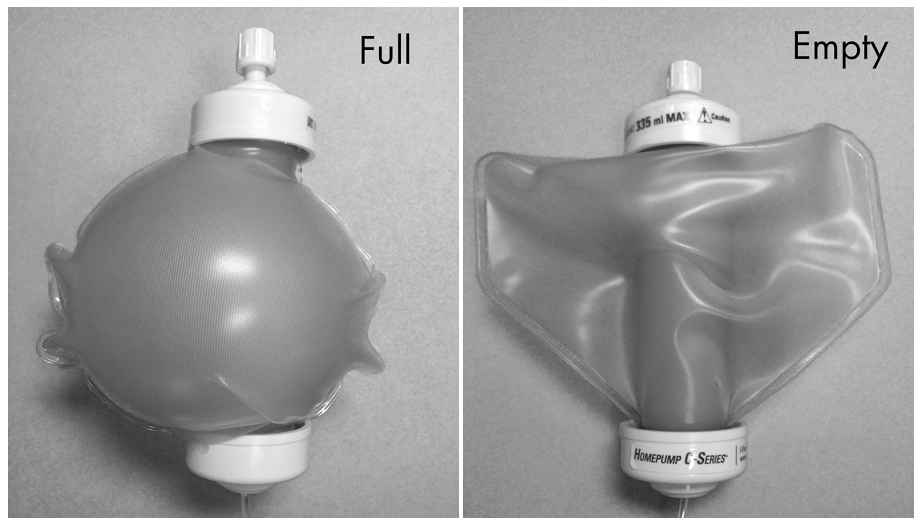
1. Clean the table top with soap and water, alcohol or bleach wipes. Let it air dry.
2. Wash your hands for 15 seconds with liquid soap and water. Dry them well.
3. Gather these supplies:
  - Alcohol pads
  - Medicine ball—Check for correct **drug name**, **dose**, and **discard date**
  - Two (2) syringes of saline solution (0.9% sodium chloride)
  - One (1) syringe of heparin or citrate (if you were told to use this)

If you need help preparing the syringes, see the info sheet called “Flushing the Line with Heparin, Saline or Citrate.”

4. Use a fresh alcohol pad to scrub the end cap on your IV line. Scrub for 15 seconds and let it air dry.
5. Take the cap off a syringe of **saline solution**. Twist the syringe into the end cap of your IV line. If there is a clamp on the line, open it.

6. “Pulse flush” your IV line with the saline, using a push-pause motion. Do this until the syringe is empty. Then hold the end cap and twist off the syringe.
7. Use a fresh alcohol pad to scrub the end cap on your IV line. Scrub for 15 seconds and let air dry.
8. Twist the tab end off the tubing that connects to the **medicine ball**. **Don’t** touch the open end of the tubing. Twist the tubing into the end cap on your IV line until it’s secure.
9. Open the clamp on the medicine ball. If you have a clamp on the IV line, make sure it is open too.

Your infusion should be done in about \_\_\_\_\_ minutes, or when the ball is empty.



The *empty* ball looks like a balloon without air, and the center feels hard.

## After every infusion

1. Close the clamp on the medicine ball.
2. To remove the tubing from your IV line, hold the end cap and twist off the tubing. Always make sure the end cap stays attached to your IV line.
3. Use a fresh alcohol pad to scrub the end cap on your IV line. Scrub for 15 seconds and let air dry.
4. Twist the other syringe of **saline solution** into the end of your IV line. “Pulse flush” the line until the syringe is empty. **Skip Step 5 if you will use heparin or citrate.**
5. **If you do *not* use heparin or citrate:** Before removing the empty syringe, close the clamp if you have one. Then hold the end cap and twist off the syringe. **Go to Step 7.**
6. **If you were told to use heparin or citrate:**
  - Remove the empty saline syringe.
  - Scrub the end cap on your IV line for 15 seconds with a fresh alcohol pad.
  - Twist the syringe of heparin or citrate into the end of your IV line.
  - “Pulse flush” your IV line with the syringe of heparin or citrate.
  - Before removing the empty syringe, close the clamp if you have one. Then hold the end cap and twist off the syringe.
7. Throw your used supplies into the household trash, unless we tell you not to.

## Getting ready for your next infusion

When you get new medicine, check to see if you need to keep it in the refrigerator. If you do, you may take the next dose out 4 to 6 hours before you plan to infuse. This will let it warm up before you use it. Go ahead and do this unless your nurse tells you otherwise.

- If you **don't** let the solution warm up, your infusion time may be longer.
- If you forget to take your medicine ball out of the refrigerator, it is still OK to infuse. **Do not change your scheduled dosing times.**

Do **not** heat the medicine ball in a microwave oven, direct sunlight, hot water or any other heat source. Heating can damage the device or the drug. If that happens, they may not work the way they should.

**Don't** use the medicine ball while bathing or showering.

If you have any problems please call

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### Always remember to:

1. Wash your hands before touching supplies.
2. “Scrub the hub”—Clean the end cap on your IV line for 15 seconds before connecting to it.