

Patient Information

# INTRAVENOUS CATHETER CARE

St. John Hospital  
Vanderhoof, BC

250-567-2211

## **INTRAVENOUS CATHETER CARE**

An infusion catheter has been placed in the vein of your arm to make it easier for you to receive intravenous medications.

The site of your infusion catheter may need to be changed every 2 to 3 days, or sooner.

### **General Care**

1. Cover the infusion catheter and the dressing with a plastic wrap before bathing or showering
2. If the catheter comes out of your vein:
  - remove the dressing
  - apply firm pressure to the site for at least 5 minutes or until bleeding stops
  - cover with a band-aid

3. Contact your family doctor or the Emergency Department if the following symptoms occur as your infusion catheter may need to be changed at your next visit, or sooner:
  - you develop a fever
  - the site becomes extremely tender
  - you develop swelling or redness at the site