

Adult Care Cadence Reference

Policies/orders are the source of truth and supersede information in this document. Refer to the policy for the steps needed to complete a task. Information applies to both ICU and non-ICU spaces unless specifically indicated.

Contact your CNS/Nurse Educator with questions

Tubing and Needless Access Device (NAD)/Endcaps:

Change...

- IV tubing, including endcaps and stopcocks q4 days¹
- Change port IV tubing each time the port is re-accessed with a new needle, even if the last tubing change was done less than 96 hours previously⁶
- Propofol tubing q12 hours, endcaps q4 days¹
- Lipid tubing, including endcaps q24 hours¹⁷
- TPN tubing q24 hours, endcaps q96 hours¹⁶
- Blood tubing including endcaps and stopcocks q4 hours. Change endcap after blood transfusions.²
- Pressure pack tubing q4 days³
- Tube feed tubing set q24 hours⁴

Dressings:

Change...

- Central line/port dressing q7 days & PRN if soiled/not intact. If d-stat used, change q24 hours. If gauze used, change q48 hours.^{5, 6}
- Arterial line dressing q7 days & PRN if soiled/not intact³
- Huber needle q7 days⁶
- Chest tube dressing daily⁷
- PIV dressings q7 days & PRN when soiled/not intact⁸

Tracheostomies:⁹

- ICU: Change trach ties q24 hours
- Non-ICU: Change trach ties q48 hours
- Perform trach care q12 hours
- Change inner cannula q12 hours with trach care (if not vented)

Gastric tubes:⁴

- PEG/PGJ care: Clean with saline or soap/water daily, dress over the bumper only if needed for drainage, no dressing under the bumper, gently rotate bumper
- Gastric residual volume monitoring is no longer routinely ordered. The “Aspirate Check” order may be placed where gastric residual volume monitoring is appropriate.
- Graduated cylinder and syringe used for sterile water flushes/medication must be labeled with expiration date to be replaced q24 hours
- After opening sterile water, write a 24 hour expiration date/time on container

HAC Prevention:

- Perform urinary indwelling Catheter care q24 hours and after every BM¹⁰
- Perform pericare q24 hours and after every BM¹⁰
- ICU: Perform oral care (antiseptic swab) q4 hours¹¹
- Teeth & tongue brushed q12 hours¹¹
- Complete antimicrobial bath q24 hours when CVC present (and all ICU patients)⁵

Updated: 11/11/2025

- ICU: Assess RASS q4 hours
- Non-ICU RASS: Only if required as component of Delirium (bCAM) or alcohol withdrawal assessment
- Rotate/reposition medical devices as appropriate for device, minimally twice daily or more frequently depending on device¹⁷
- Turn patient on individualized schedule, typically q2 hours if patient is at risk for developing pressure injury ¹⁷

Miscellaneous:

- Assess skin under cervical collar every shift¹²
- Cervical collar gray pads changed when soiled¹²
- Change BIS stickers/sensor q24 hour¹³
- Assess temp with routine vital signs¹⁴
- Change temperature monitor sticker q24 hours¹⁵
- Place Alcohol Impregnated Caps (AIC) on every end cap with a central line in place. AICs are one time use and must be replaced with new AIC if removed⁵
- Place dead end cap (i.e. ClearGuard® or TEGO®) caps on HD access. TEGO® caps-change every 7 days or PRN. ⁵

Policies

1. #12456 Intravenous Push and Infusion Preparation and Administration
2. #8457 Blood/Blood Components Administration
3. #7605 Arterial Line: Insertion, Maintenance, Obtaining Samples and Removal – Adult and Pediatrics
4. #6968 Care and Management of Enteral Tubes – Adult
5. #7792 Central Venous Catheter: Insertion, Maintenance, Utilization and Removal – Adult
6. #7492 Implanted Venous Port – Adult
7. #7806 Chest Tubes – Adult
8. #6134 Peripheral Intravenous (IV) Catheter: Insertion, Maintenance and Removal
9. #8182 Tracheostomy Tube Care – Adults
10. #8159 Indwelling Urinary Catheter (IUC) Care for the prevention of Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)
11. #9647 Oral Care – Adults
12. #10245 Collars and Braces for Spinal Stabilization
13. #7594 BIS (Bispectral Index) Monitor
14. #21728 Vital Signs and I&O Monitoring
15. #22126 Patient Temp Management – Adults
16. #24567 Parenteral Nutrition
17. #5547 Inpatient Skin, Wound and Pressure Injury Prevention Care