

Information for patients:

# Cannula information to discuss with your Nurse and Doctor

## What patients can ask and do:

### I Intravenous access needs

Tell your healthcare team about your past experiences including:

- Difficulty inserting a Cannula
- Anything that has worked well
- Your preference or any physical problems that could affect where the PIVC is placed
- Any allergies you have, such as to tapes and dressings.

### V Cannula access checks

- Your clinician will regularly check your Cannula
- Tell your clinician if you have any concerns or notice any problems.

### W What patients can do to reduce the risk of complications

To help to look after your Cannula:

- Protect the PIVC from knocks or being pulled
- Wear loose clothing so that the Cannula does not get caught
- Keep the PIVC dry while washing and showering
- Ensure that the protective dressing stays in place.

### I Infection risk

To prevent infection:

- Keep your hands clean by washing with soap or using sanitiser
- Do not touch, fiddle with, or move the device.

### S Signs and symptoms of complications

Tell your clinician as soon as possible about:

- Redness, pain or swelling at the insertion site
- Feeling hot, cold or shivery
- Leakage from the device
- The dressing getting wet, bloodstained or loose.

### E Expected removal

- If your PIVC has not been used in the last **24 hours**, ask if you still need it
- If you are going home and your Cannula is still in place, ask your clinician if it can be removed.

