



Student Information Booklet – CVAT

Welcome!

Welcome to your 2 week placement with the Central Venous Access Team at LTHTR. We hope you enjoy your time with us. We are a team of Clinical Nurse Specialists and Assistant practitioner who deal with the insertion and management of PICC lines, Midlines, ultrasound guided cannulation and much more.



Being Caring and Compassionate

Being caring and compassionate is at the heart of everything we do, we will understand what each person needs and strive to make a positive difference in whatever way we can.



Recognising Individuality

We appreciate differences, making staff and patients feel respected and valued.



Seeking to Involve

We will actively get involved and encourage others to contribute and share their ideas, information, knowledge and skills in order to provide a joined up service.



Building Team Spirit

We will work together as one team with shared goals doing what it takes to provide the best possible service.



Taking Personal Responsibility

We are each accountable for achieving improvements to obtain the highest standards of care in the most professional way, resulting in a service we can all be proud of.

Housekeeping

5 day service, including bank holidays. 8:30am-4:30pm.

Contact details: 01772 524781 (Office)

Bleep 3057.

Email: cvat@lthtr.nhs.uk

Fire assembly point is on the grass area outside the office. The nearest fire extinguisher is in the entrance to SALT/CVAT department.

Sickness reporting: If you are unable to attend work due to sickness, or for any other reason, please contact the CVAT nurses on 01772 524781 as soon as possible. Remember, we only tend to be in the office from approximately 8:30am onwards so if there is no answer, call back as soon as possible. You can ask to discuss this with your practice assessor or LEM confidentially (if you need to) or with any of the CVAT nurses who are available.

The Central Venous Access Team.

The CVAT team was set up in 2014 by CNS Linzi Tierney and Consultant Nurse Tracey Early.

The CVAT team provides a 5 day service (including bank holidays) across both sites to deliver specialist care, advice and assistance with the management of Vascular Access Devices.

We are a specialised team of 3 CNS' and 1 AP who all come from different Nursing backgrounds. We all have different special interests but all work together to maintain the high standards expected here at LTHTR.

Our CVAT Team Members.

Consultant Nutrition Nurse - Tracy Earley

Nutrition Nurses: Ext 4781/3608 (Bleep 3410)

Linzi Tierney (Lead Nurse)

Michael Heap (CNS)

Sarah French (CNS)

Vik Chekori (AP)

Gillian Armstrong (HCA)

Annie Owens (HCA)

Clinical Support Manager

Rachel Ward

Secretaries (ext 3057):

Donna Middleton, Cathryn Billington

Day to day working.

Everyone starts at 8:30am, we go through new referrals, catch up on left over admin from previous day. Then we allocate tasks, these tasks include this includes:

- PICC Insertion:

PICC insertions take place at the patient's bedside and in our clinic. The majority of the PICC placements will take place at the patient's bedside.

- Ultrasound Cannulation/Venepuncture:

Insertion of ultrasound cannulation/venepuncture varies from day to day, this takes up 45% of our workload.

- Clinic:

Clinic will vary on a daily basis, some weeks are busier than others. In clinic, patients will attend for PICC insertions, troubleshooting PICC's and other central lines, ultrasound guided venepuncture.

- Wards

Again, this will vary on a day to day basis. You will gain experience with bedside PICC placement, ultrasound guided cannulation and venepuncture, PICC trouble shooting and PICC/Midline care and maintenance. There may be opportunities to complete ward audits.

Below is a list of objectives which you will have the opportunity to do while with the CVAT:

- PICC insertion
- Troubleshooting Vascular Access Devices
- Ward audits for PICCs/Midlines
- Midline insertion
- Ultrasound guided cannulation
- Ultrasound guided venepuncture
- PICC care and maintenance
- Principles of Vessel Health Preservation
- Obtaining bloods from a Central line
- Central line dressings
- Obtaining cultures from a central line

Your dedicated practice assessor for your time with the CVAT team is:

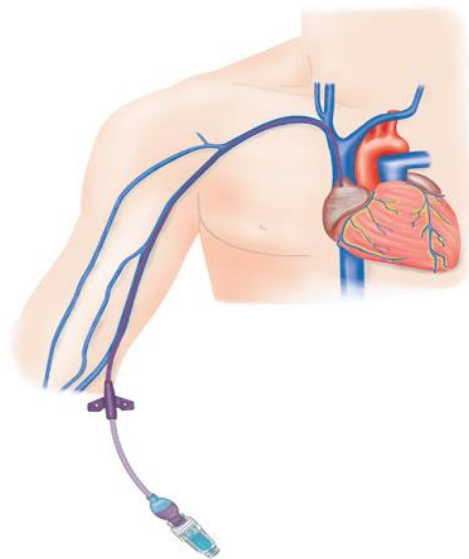
However, all other members of the CVAT Team will be working alongside you. Please do not worry and ask any questions at all. There is no such thing as a daft question! 😊

Different types of Vascular Access Devices

Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter - PICC



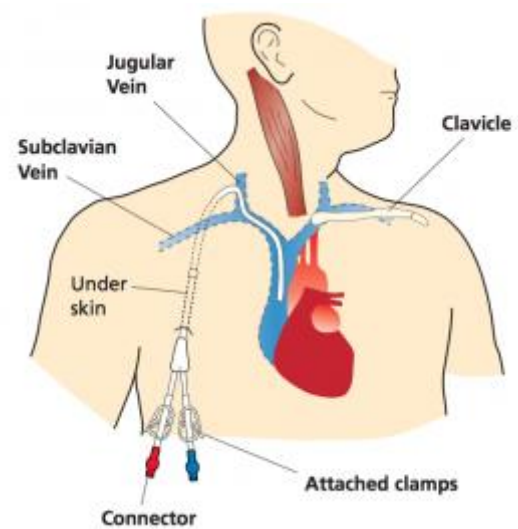
- 24hours- 12 months
- Drug pH range any
- Any Osmolarity range
- Low insertion cost
- Incompatible drugs through multi-lumens
- Home infusions.



Tunnelled/Cuffed Central Venous Catheters



- 4 weeks up to 2 years
- Placed in Interventional Radiology and the Haemodialysis unit
- Cuff takes 21 days to bed in
- Any Drug pH range
- Any Osmolarity any
- Incompatible drugs
- High flow rates
- Patients with chronic diseases
- Home infusions

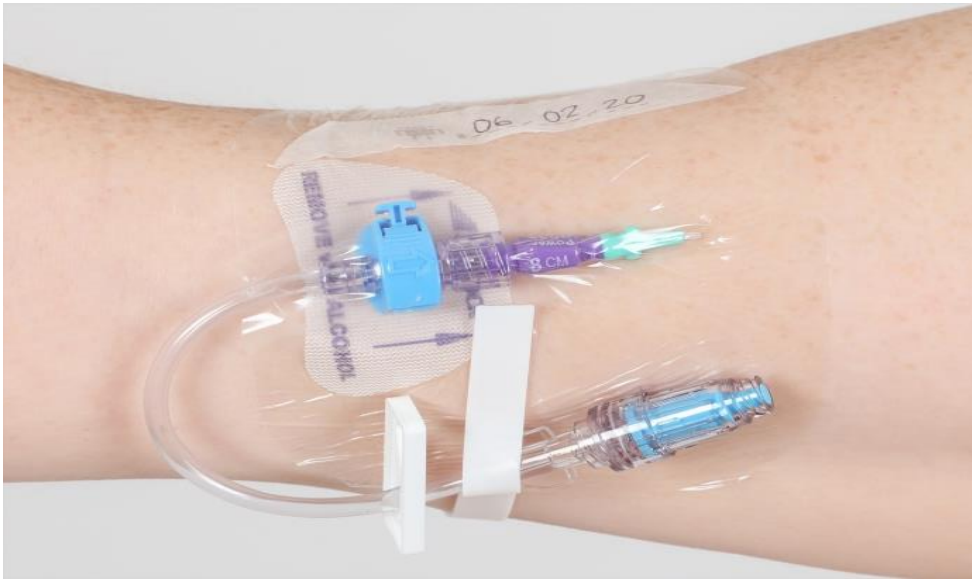


Tunnelled/Non cuffed Central Venous Catheter



- Up 3 weeks
- Drug pH range any
- Osmolarity range any
- Incompatible drugs through multiple lumens
- Low cost
- Multi-lumen access

Midline



- A Midline is short term device duration of up to 28 days
- 8cm to 20cm and does not extend past the axilla
- Stops the need for further cannulation
- Provides continuity of treatment
- Midlines placed 8-10cm in the upper arm , placed in either basilic, brachial or cephalic vein
- Midlines are power injectable
- Dressing + extension set to be renewed every 7 days or sooner if bloodstained or loose
- Can be used for administration of intravenous medication and possibly blood sampling
- Administration of medication with pH 5-9 and with an osmolality below 500.

Peripheral Cannula

- Up to 72 hours
- Drug pH range 5.0-9
- Osmolarity range <500mOSM/kg
- Peripheral
- Low cost

Non-ported safety cannula with an
Integrated extension set



- Requires an extension set for use
- Ported safety cannula

Further reading:

- Vessel health and preservation: The Right Approach for Vascular Access
- [3M Health Care Academy \(3mlearning.co.uk\)](https://www.3mlearning.co.uk)
- [Vessel Health and Preservation Framework 2020 | IPS](#)