

TROUBLESHOOTING GUIDE

The balloon doesn't seem to be deflating.

- Make sure that the clamp is opened and the tubing is not kinked.
- The infusor flows extremely slowly, make sure you have waited long enough.
- Call the Oncology Clinic before 3:30 p.m. or your homecare nurse after 3:30 p.m.

I have pain, redness and swelling at the Port/PICC site.

- Stop the infusion by clamping the tubing.
- Call the Oncology Clinic before 3:30 p.m. or your homecare nurse after 3:30 p.m.

The balloon bursts, or there is fluid inside the infusor bottle but outside the balloon.

- Wear gloves before handling the infusor.
- Call the Oncology Clinic before 3:30 p.m. or your homecare nurse after 3:30 p.m.
- Place the infusor inside a leak-proof plastic bag and return it to the Oncology Clinic the next day.

The infusor bottle broke or is damaged.

- Wear gloves before handling the infusor.
- Call the Oncology Clinic before 3:30 p.m. or your homecare nurse after 3:30 p.m.
- Place the infusor inside a leak-proof plastic bag and return it to the Oncology Clinic the next day.

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This brochure was developed by the Oncology Clinic staff.
For more information please speak to your health care team or call 416-530-6000 ext. 6235.

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Infusor For 5FU Home Infusion

Patient Information

at St. Joseph's Health Centre

ST. JOSEPH'S
HEALTH CENTRE TORONTO

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Infusor for 5FU Home Infusion

You will be receiving 5-fluorouracil (5FU) via infusor as part of your chemotherapy regimen. The balloon inside the bottle will deflate allowing the drug to flow into your blood stream at a steady rate. This device offers greater mobility and convenience compared to using a traditional infusion pump.

STARTING THE INFUSION

At the end of your chemotherapy session in the Oncology Clinic, your nurse will connect the infusor to your Port or PICC. The nurse will then make sure that the clamp on the tubing is open, the tubing is not kinked and that the drug solution inside the balloon is flowing into your vein.

The pump will work in any position (upside down or sideways) as long as the clamp is open and the tubing is not kinked.

DURING THE INFUSION

Once your nurse makes sure that the infusor is properly connected to your Port or PICC, you may leave the clinic. The balloon in the bottle will deflate and deliver the drug into your body over approximately 2 days.

The balloon will be shrinking very slowly, but over time, you will notice the balloon deflating.

You may do regular activities (e.g., walking, driving, eating) while having this infusion, but avoid strenuous activities until the infusion is finished.

Make sure that the clamp remains opened and the tubing is not kinked while you are receiving this treatment. Be careful to keep the tubing tucked into your clothing so it doesn't catch on anything.

Keep the infusor close to your body during use to maintain a constant temperature, as temperature will affect the flow rate of the infusor.

STOPPING THE INFUSION

You may be instructed to stop the infusion before the balloon is completely deflated. You will be provided with instruction on how to do so by the oncology nurse or the CCAC nurse if the situation arise.

REMOVING THE IV CATHETER

Your homecare nurse will come to your

house at the end of the infusion to remove the infusor and flush your Port or PICC. Alternatively, you may be instructed to return to the Oncology Clinic to have the infusor removed and to have your Port or PICC flushed.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Can I shower with the infusor?

Yes, the infusor can get wet, but it should not be submerged in water. You may hang it on a suction cup shower hook. You will need to keep your Port/PICC site dry while you bathe.

Where should I put the infusor while I sleep?

It is best to keep the infusor at the same level as your Port/PICC site. Most patients find it comfortable to tuck the infusor under the pillow.

If you have any questions, feel free to ask your clinic nurse or your clinic pharmacist.

Oncology Clinic:
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