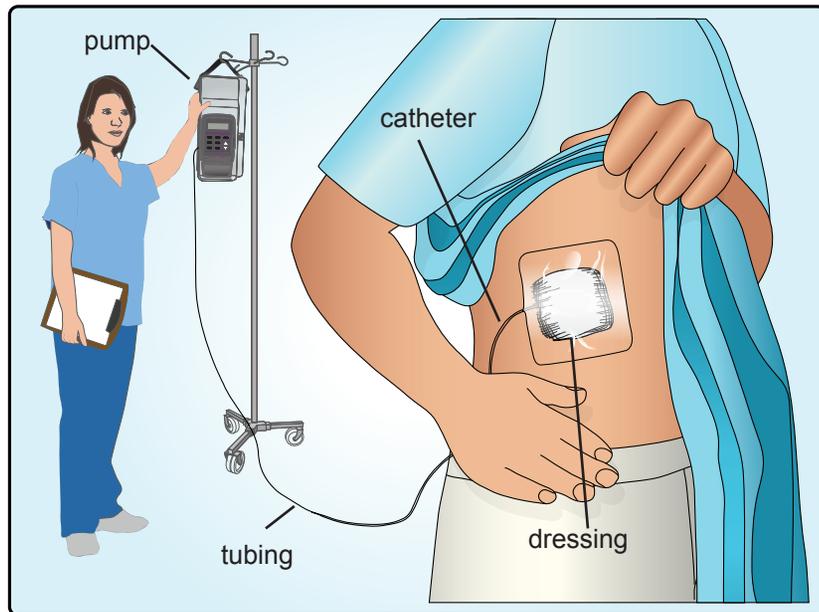


Intraspinal Pain Device (Catheter with dressing)



What is this?

Your doctor will place a flexible tube (catheter) in the epidural space or the intrathecal space (see drawing on page 5) and exit the skin in your back or your side. You will always have a dressing over this area.

The dressing will need to be changed weekly by your nurse.

A pump will be attached to your catheter to deliver medication continuously or at specific times of the day to allow you to move more freely most of the time.

How does it work?

If you are staying in the hospital, the medication will be given to you by a nurse using a pump which will deliver medication continuously or only at specific times of the day.

If you are living at home, you and a family member will be taught to inject the medication. It is simple and safe. You and your doctor will discuss which option is best for you.

How do I take care of this?

The external tubing should feel comfortable.

Avoid taking baths. You can shower after covering the dressing and tubing on your skin. You will be shown an easy way to protect the external tubing and dressing with a folded plastic bag.

Avoid activities that might damage the tubing or dressing such as swimming. You can discuss this further with your nurse.

If you are living at home, you will have an appointment with the nurse at the hospital every week. During the visit, the nurse will do an evaluation of your pain and also change the dressing.

Your pain medication may be adjusted at this time, if necessary.

KEY POINTS

- Delivers medication to your spine.
- Every day, write the level of pain you feel in your Pain Intensity Scale and Diary.
- The tubing and dressing may affect your body image.
- You can move around with this treatment.
- Report any side effect that you have to the doctor or nurse during your visit at the clinic.