



**NEPHROLOGY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Home Dialysis - Section 05 - Vascular Access - HDU 5-02
Care and use of the Hemodialysis Catheter with Tego Connectors
No.: 01457 (TOH Standardized Policy Number)**

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POLICY STATEMENT:

- To access, flush and instill anticoagulant lock in a Hemodialysis Catheter using Tego connectors
- To access the Tego connector to draw bloodwork or to administer medication

ALERTS:

- Tego connectors are to be used only for Home Dialysis Patients who are dialyzing via a CVC
- DO NOT insert a needle thru the end of the Tego connector, the device is designed to accept the tip of a syringe, dialysis blood tubing or IV tubing
- The Tego connector does not have dead space; priming when instilling the anticoagulant lock is not required
- Tego connectors must be changed weekly and/or if there are unusual high CVC pressures during dialysis prior to obtaining an order for alteplase
- If the CVC catheter is not being used, the Tego connector should be removed and dead-end caps (if not in use at all) or Baxter Interlink caps (if being used for bloodwork or medications) should be used
- The end of the Tego connector must be cleansed with an alcohol swab with every connection

SUPPLIES:

| Quantity | Product |
|----------|--|
| 2 | 2 non-sterile waterproof pads |
| 4 | Large Chlorhexidine 2% in 4 %alcohol antiseptic |
| 2 | Masks |
| 2 | Tego connectors |
| 3 | Sterile 4X4 gauze |
| 2 | 3 cc syringes |
| 1 | Pink bloodwork female ended vacutainer |
| | Alcohol based hand sanitizer |
| 5-7 | Alcohol swabs |
| 2 | Pair non-sterile gloves |
| 2-4 | 18 g blunt needles |
| 2-4 | 20 ml syringes |
| 2 | 10 cc syringes |
| 2 | Pre-loaded 4% Sodium citrate syringes and labels |

PROCEDURE:

A: Accessing the Tego

- Wearing non-sterile gloves, remove the gauze from the end of the CVC and remove the citrate labels
- Remove gloves and cleanse hands
- Put on masks (Pt and RN)
- Open supplies onto a non-sterile waterproof pad
- Pick up arterial lumen of catheter and cleanse Tego end with alcohol swab for 15 seconds; air dry for 15 seconds
- Unfold sterile 4x4 gauze; place under arterial lumen
- Pick up one 10 ml syringe; twist onto end of Tego
- Remove Citrate: pull blood back twice the length of catheter
- Close clamp; remove syringe;
- Cleanse end of Tego with new alcohol swab for 15 seconds

Blood specimen collection with vacutainer adapter:

- Attach 10 cc syringe to arterial Tego (20 cc if more blood required)
- Open clamp on arterial lumen, and withdraw blood sample
- Close arterial lumen clamp; remove syringe
- Connect syringe to female end of pink vacutainer
- Fill blood tubes following order of draw
- Continue with usual connection procedure

Medication administration:

- Flush lumen with 20 ml of NS, re-cleanse the end of the Tego with alcohol swab, then:
 - Luer the medication syringe onto the end of the Tego connector; open the clamp; administer the medication as per HDU/Neph specific policy or TOH Parenteral Manual.
 - If infusing medication:
 - i. Luer the end of the IV line onto the Tego connector; open clamp on lumen; infuse the medication via an IV pump.
 - ii. At completion of infusion: close the clamp on the lumen; remove the syringe/IV tubing from the Tego connector
 - iii. Continue with usual connection procedure

Weekly flushes:

- Cleanse the arterial lumen of the Tego connector with a fresh alcohol swab. Luer a syringe with 20 ml of NS, open the lumen clamp and flush the lumen using turbulent flow. Close lumen clamp and remove syringe
- Twist Citrate syringe onto arterial lumen Tego
- Open clamp and push Citrate into lumen
- Close arterial lumen clamp
- Remove Citrate syringe
- Fold gauze over arterial lumen
- Repeat steps with venous lumen
- Place Citrate labels on both limbs of catheter
- Wrap limbs of catheter with new 4x4 gauze

B: Changing the Tego connectors

- Explain procedure to patient
- Position the patient in a stretcher or chair; patient should be supine to reduce the risk of air embolism
- Don mask (patient & RN)
- Remove tape and gauze from the ends of the CVC
- Place non-sterile waterproof pad on work surface and add supplies
 - Open 4 large Chlorhexidine swabs
 - Open 2 packages of 10 cm x 10 cm gauzes, leave them in their wrapper

- Open TEGOs-Use 3 cc syringe to screw into the TEGO then remove the blue end, deposit the TEGO with the syringe attached on the opened gauze (repeat for the other TEGO)
- Put on non-sterile gloves
 - Slide waterproof pad under the catheter to protect the patient's clothing
- Take 1 large Chlorhexidine wipe and open it fully
- Pick up one of the catheter limbs; scrub the cap and the limb up to and including the clamp for 30 seconds
- Verify that the catheter clamp is closed
- Place a 10cm x 10cm gauze under the limb
- Remove the old TEGO (maintain hold on open limb)
- Pick up another wipe and clean the hub for 15 seconds
- Let air dry
- Pick up the 3cc syringe with the TEGO attached to it and secure the TEGO in place, remove the syringe
- Repeat procedure with for the second limb
- Apply anticoagulant sticker to the Tego; wrap the ends of the lumen with 10 cm X 10 cm gauze; secure the gauze with tape.

DOCUMENTATION:

1. Document the dressing change in the Nephro/Care progress notes
2. Document the administration of anticoagulant lock in the medication orders

RELATED POLICIES / LEGISLATION:

1. Nephrology Policies and Procedures - [Hemodialysis - Section 06 - Hemodialysis Catheters - Neph 6-01 \(#00748\) Initiating Hemodialysis with a Hemodialysis Catheter](#)
2. Nephrology Policies and Procedures - [Hemodialysis - Section 06 - Hemodialysis Catheters - Neph 6-02 \(#00749\) Discontinuing Dialysis with a Hemodialysis Catheter](#)
3. Nephrology Policies and Procedures - [Hemodialysis - Section 06 - Hemodialysis Catheters - Neph 6-03 \(#00750\) Management of the Hemodialysis Catheter](#)

REFERENCES:

1. Tego Connector product manual ICU Medical, M1-1149 Rev.5
http://www.icumed.com/Docs-Tego/M1-1149_Tego_Brochure.pdf

COMMENTS / SIGNIFICANT REVISIONS: N/A