



# Caring for an intravenous cannula (drip)

## Information for parents and carers



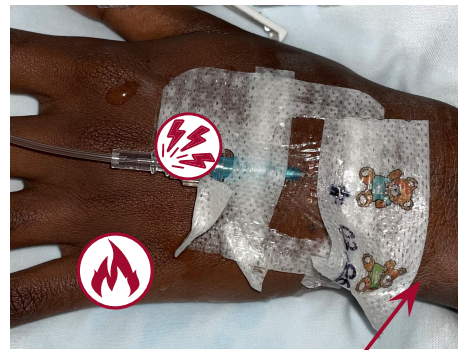
The drip dressing should be:

- ✓ clean and dry
- ✓ secure and not peeling or coming off

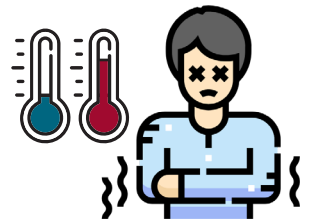
Tell the nurse if:



- ✗ the drip is **hurting**
- ✗ the drip **feels hot** or **looks puffy**
- ✗ the drip is **red, swollen** or **feels sore**



- ✗ the dressing is **wet, peeling** or **coming off**
- ✗ your child feels **cold, hot** or **shaky**



How to keep the drip dry:

- ask the nurse to wrap the drip before a shower
- try not to touch the drip or pull the tube
- tell the nurse if the **dressing is wet**



It's ok to ask - "Why is the drip still in?"

In hospital, the drip will be removed if:

- it was inserted before coming to hospital
- it's no longer required
- it's not working or it hurts, feels hot, red, or swollen

A new drip will be inserted if it is needed.



The drip should be removed before leaving the hospital.

If the old drip site hurts or if your child feels cold, hot or shaky after you go home, make sure you take your child to the doctor as soon as possible.

These symptoms are important as they can lead to sepsis (blood poisoning) and they can get very sick.

