

Survey of Swimming Practices Among Home Parenteral Nutrition Programs in the United States

HPN Program	Do You Allow Your Patients to Swim With a CVC?	Bodies of Water Allowed	Dressing/PICC Line Covers	Other Rules
A	Tunneled catheters > 2 months postplacement Unaccessed ports	Ocean, pool	Transparent dressing over catheter Ports: needle must be out for 4 hours prior to swimming	Clean site and change dressing immediately after water activity
B	Only mediports	Any	No particular dressing	
C	Only deaccessed ports	Any	No	
D	Hickman catheter: cannot swim for the first 3 weeks or until tissue adherence to the cuff can be ensured Ports: once pocket is healed and not accessed No PICC unless cuffed	Ocean, pool, private hot tub	Catheter coiled up + Tegaderm covering the entire dressing	After swimming, remove Tegaderm and perform site care with ChlorPrep, gauze, and tape Cuffed PICC use AquaGuard
E	Unaccessed ports Cuffed PICCs ≥ 6 months postplacement	Ocean, pool	Waterproof tape	Clean site after swimming
F	No information (situation has not come up)			
G	PICCs: no swimming Hickman: yes, once catheter in place > 1 months Port: unaccessed > 1 months postplacement	Chlorinated pool only	Hickman: standard dressing	Hickman: change dressing immediately after swimming
H	Yes: Broviac Hickman Medicomp Once exit site is healed	Pool		Change dressing immediately after and clean the outside of the catheter with chlorhexidine
I	Babies: no Some older patients do swim	Chlorinated pools	Cover and protect the whole Broviac with another dressing that would encompass the whole original dressing + catheter Have used AquaGuard in the past	Change the central line dressing immediately after swimming
J	Minimum swimming (usually only special occasions)	Private backyard swimming pools They can splash around in other bodies of water	AquaGuard or large Tegaderm	Lines need to be in for at least 6 weeks prior to swimming Dressing is changed as soon as the child is done swimming If the patient begins to have site infections the privilege is lost
K	Only deaccessed ports			
L	Tunneled CVAD Deaccessed ports	Chlorinated pools only	A watertight dressing should be worn over the catheter exit site while swimming. If the dressing comes off or if there is moisture present beneath the dressing the patient should cleanse the site and apply a new dressing immediately after swimming. It is also important to cover the end connector and the connection between the catheter hub and the end connector. This is a potential point of entry into the catheter lumen itself and should also be secured with a watertight covering.	
M	No swimming			
N	No swimming			
O	Yes	Pools only	Catheter coiled up + large Tegaderm	
P	No swimming			

CVAD, central venous access device; CVC, central venous catheter; HPN, home parenteral nutrition; PICC, peripherally inserted central catheter