

Troubleshooting CVC Issues

Problem	Possible cause	Action
Fever and chills	Infection	Check the patient's temperature and call the treating doctor's office immediately for further direction.
Tenderness/redness or pus at the catheter site		
Unable to give medicine or flush the catheter	Catheter maybe clamped	Check the clamp and assure it is unclamped
	Catheter or tubing my be kinked	Remove the kink ONLY if you can see that a kink is the issue.
	Not clamped and not kinked; ???	Do NOT force the fluid into the CVC. Call the treating doctor's office for further direction.
Fluid is leaking from the catheter	Injection cap is not screwed on securely	Tighten the injection cap
	A hole in the catheter	Clamp (fold over or pinch) the catheter between the damaged area and the skin. Call the treating doctor's office for immediate direction OR go to the ER