

# UCLA - Adult Vascular Access Planning Guidelines

**Evaluate IV access needs daily**  
**(patient does not have PICC, non-tunneled CVC, tunneled CVC or implanted port)**

**Duration**

**Anticipate < 5 days IV therapy or blood draws**

**Anticipate > 5 days IV therapy or blood draws**

**Catheter choice**  
**(in order of preference)**

**Good IV access**  
**(Adequate periph veins)**

**Poor IV access**  
**(> 3 failed PIV attempts)**

**> 3 Months**

**< 3 Months**

**Peripheral IV**

**Short-term non-tunneled CVC/Midline**

**Tunneled CVC/Port**

**PICC**

**PICC**

**Short-term non-tunneled CVC/Midline**

**Tunneled CVC/Port**

- ❖ PICC placement may be contraindicated with altered circulation such as patients with AV grafts/fistulas, history of DVT, peripheral vascular ligation, DVT, lymph node dissection, etc.
- ❖ For home IV medications, consider stable access such as a PICC/Midline catheter, tunneled CVC, or port. For patients with short-term therapy, good access, and good home care resources, a PIV may be considered.
- ❖ Please discuss with case manager. Temporary CVCs are not approved for home use.

## Diagnoses that may require long term IV access:

**Abscess**  
**Cardiomyopathy**  
**Cellulitis**  
**Dehydration**

**Endocarditis**  
**Hyperemesis**  
**Malignancies**  
**Transplant Rejection**

**Osteomyelitis**  
**Pneumonia**  
**Renal Failure**  
**Sepsis**

Administration through a central venous catheter is recommended for :

- Irritant Drugs-Infusions with pH < 5 or > 9
- Vesicant Drugs-Agent capable of causing tissue destruction. These medications include those with osmolality > 600 mOsm/L, chemo, and TPN with glucose > 10%.

- ❖ Midline catheters are not appropriate for parental nutrition, continuous infusion of vesicant drugs, infusions with osmolality > 600 mOsm/L, and infusions with pH < 5 or > 9. These medications include but are not limited to TPN, chemotherapy agents, vancomycin, dopamine, amphotericin, and phenytoin. Please consult with a pharmacist if you are not sure if a medication can be administered through a midline catheter.

