



Your intravenous cannula-drip

How to care for your drip while in hospital



Your drip dressing should be:

- clean
- dry
- secure and not lifting

Tell the nurse if:

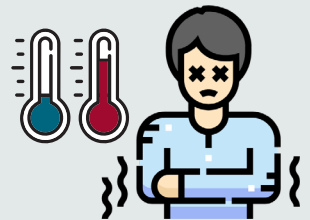


- your drip is **hurting**
- your drip **feels hot**
- your drip is **red, swollen** or **feels sore**



your dressing is **loose**

you feel **cold, hot** or **shaky**



In hospital, your drip should be removed within three days or as soon as you no longer require it. This is to reduce your risk of infection. A new drip will be inserted if you still need it.

How to keep your drip dry:

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



Your drip should be removed before you leave the hospital. If your old drip site hurts or if you feel cold, hot or shaky after you go home, make sure you visit your doctor as soon as possible. These symptoms are important as they can lead to sepsis (blood poisoning) and you can get very sick.

