



Home Infusion Therapy

PATIENT INSTRUCTION & SAFETY

Home infusion therapy is a safe and effective alternative to inpatient care for many health conditions. To achieve the desired level of safety and success, home infusion patients and caregivers must be properly educated about infusion therapy. A successful home infusion experience includes knowing how to flush IV lines, store and handle your medication and supplies properly, troubleshoot your infusion equipment and contact your clinical team in an emergency.

The Amber Specialty Pharmacy infusion therapy team will coordinate your infusion care with your doctor. Many patients prefer infusion therapy at home or through an outpatient ambulatory infusion clinic (AIC). This allows for a more normal lifestyle — balancing work, school and home during therapy. Other benefits include fewer complications, better clinical outcomes and increased peace of mind.*

Your safety and comfort are top priority with Amber Specialty Pharmacy home infusion care. At Amber Specialty Pharmacy, our goal is to provide you with everything needed to receive treatment in the comfort of your own home. This includes coordinating your care, providing infusion therapy training and helping you feel capable and confident with your home infusion treatment. Qualified Amber Specialty Pharmacy infusion therapy staff and trusted home health partners will help you become familiar with key aspects of your infusion care.

RECEIVING AND STORING YOUR MEDICATION & SUPPLIES

Amber Specialty Pharmacy team members and a home health care nurse will train you and your caregiver on how to use your infusion therapy supplies. In addition to individual training, Amber Specialty Pharmacy provides numerous patient resources. If you have questions or concerns about your medication or supplies, or you would like to speak with a member of your Amber Specialty Pharmacy team, Amber Specialty Pharmacy is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

MEDICATION DELIVERY, STORAGE & TRAINING

- Amber Specialty Pharmacy will coordinate a delivery schedule to ensure your medication arrives on time.
- Your Amber Specialty Pharmacy nurse liaison or home health care nurse will train you and your caregivers on the correct use of your infusion medication and supplies. You can also call your Amber Specialty Pharmacy pharmacist with any questions.
- Please check the medication label for the following:
 - YOUR NAME
 - PHYSICIAN NAME
 - DRUG NAME and DOSAGE
 - EXPIRATION DATE. Do not use medications and solutions after the EXPIRATION DATE
- Please be sure to check all medication labels for proper storage instructions.
- If your medication requires refrigeration, set it out and bring it to room temperature approximately 1-2 hours before usage. Do not heat your medication with a microwave, oven or other warming device. If you forget to set out your medication, contact your pharmacist for instructions.
- For medications stored in the freezer, please remove the correct dose that you will use within the next 24 hours. Place it in your refrigerator to thaw. Once it thaws, remove the medication from the refrigerator 1-2 hours before use, which allows the medicine to reach room temperature.

INFUSION SUPPLIES & STORAGE

- Please keep track of all infusion therapy supplies. Setting aside a designated area for your infusion materials will help you keep track of your equipment and supplies. After you finish treatment, you may have to return some of the infusion equipment to Amber Specialty Pharmacy. At the end of your infusion therapy, your Amber Specialty Pharmacy pharmacist will address this as needed.
- Always be sure to keep infusion therapy supplies and medications out of reach of small children and pets. Your medication and supplies should never touch the floor.
- Please dispose of any needles, syringes or other sharp objects related to your infusion therapy in a red sharps container. For safety, never remove the lid of the sharps container.
- Always be sure to store your supplies and infusion materials in a dry area at room temperature. Keep your supplies neat and organized.
- Check bags and packages for tears, leaks or breakage. If you notice these or other problems with your medication, please contact the pharmacy or home health care representative as soon as possible for replacement materials.
- Keep paper products dry. If these supplies get wet, they are no longer sterile and need to be thrown away.
- Please keep a list of your supplies with an accurate count of each item. This will help ensure you always have the materials you need for your infusion. Remember to call the pharmacy at least 2-3 days before you run out of supplies.

ROOM SET UP

- Establish a designated area in your home for infusion therapy.
- Keep the room or area neat, clean and organized.
- Establish a specific time for your therapy so you can be free of distractions and interruptions.
- Be sure you have access to a clean, flat work surface. Clean the area with soap and water and disinfect it with alcohol before each infusion.
- Be sure you have good lighting in your designated infusion area.
- Keep your red sharps container easily accessible during your infusion.

HANDLING & DISPOSAL OF BIOMEDICAL WASTE

- Be sure to review your local guidelines for proper waste handling and disposal. Your Amber Specialty Pharmacy health care team will help you comply with disposal standards in your community.
- Place needles, syringes with attached needles and other sharp items in the red sharps container provided.
- Discard other medical supplies, including IV tubing, syringes without needles or empty medication containers with regular trash.
- Never put your hand or fingers in the red sharps container.
- Once the sharps container is nearly full, close it securely and throw it away with your regular trash. Amber Specialty Pharmacy will help you access another sharps container to dispose of your infusion supplies safely.

Contact Us

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888-370-1724

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*Polinski, J.M.; Kowal, M.K.; Gagnon, M.; Brennan, T.A.; & Shrank, W.H. (16 April 2016). Home infusion: Safe, clinically effective, patient preferred and cost saving. Cumberland, RI: CVS Health.