

A central venous access device, or central line, is a long hollow tube which is placed into one of the large veins in the body. One end of the line remains outside the body and the other end is positioned inside a large vein, usually near to the heart.

The particular vein that is used, and the side of the body, will depend on the reasons that you require a central line. The best position and site for you will be discussed before the procedure. The doctor/nurse will check that the device is in the correct position before it can be used.

Details of interventions with the CVAD should be recorded below as well as the appropriate nursing/medical records.

Date:	Performed by	Signature
Length of line from entry site		
Blood withdrawn		
Device flushed		
Dressing & line securing device changed		
Needle free bung changed		
Comments		CLIPS

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Assessment	Score	Action
Site appears healthy	Good (3)	No sign of infection • Observe & record insertion site & score each shift
Is one of the following: • Swelling, redness, pain, tenderness, heat, or discharge • Pus or cloudy drainage • Serious discharge	Caution (2)	Possible insertion site infection: • Observe and record insertion site appearance & score each shift • DRS to GP or microbiologist, if result is positive and continues to show signs of infection • Consider the removal & replacement
Any of the following: • Swelling, redness, pain, tenderness, heat, or discharge • Pus or cloudy drainage • Serious discharge	Insertion (1)	Insertion (1)

The Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) ensures that the NHS listens to patients, relatives, carers and friends, answers questions and resolves concerns as quickly as possible. If you have a query or concern call 01271 314090 or email rduhpals-northern@rhs.net. You can also visit the PALS and Information Centre in person at North Devon District Hospital, Barnstaple.

Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust aims to provide high quality services. However, please tell us when something could be improved. If you have a comment or compliment about a service or treatment, please raise your comments with a member of staff or the PALS team in the first instance.

