

CSHCN – CENTRAL VENOUS LINE ACCESS

Central venous lines and implanted vascular access ports are frequently utilized in children with complex or complicated medical issues. The devices allow for continuous or intermittent vascular access in order to administer intravenous fluids or medications. Central venous catheter tips generally terminate in the Superior/Inferior Vena Cava or within the Right Atrium. Common types are the traditional Central Venous Line (CVL), Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC), and Vascular Access Port (VAP).

- A. Perform **Initial Treatment / Universal Patient Care Protocol** and follow the proper protocol for medical management based on clinical presentation.
- B. Determine the need for vascular access in the pre-hospital environment.
 - 1. Assess the insertion site and inspect the central venous device for damage, signs of local infection, or edema.
- C. **ALL EMS PROVIDERS**
 - 1. If breathing is adequate, place the child in a position of comfort and administer high flow oxygen to maintain a SPO2 of 94 to 99 %.
 - 2. Monitor and maintain adequate airway and breathing during transport.
 - 3. Bring all of the child's medical charts or medical forms that the caregiver may have, the child's "**go bag**" or other similar bag, and any supplies that the caregiver may have.
 - 4. Transport to the nearest appropriate facility as soon as possible.
 - 5. Reassess the child at least every 3 - 5 minutes or more frequently as necessary and possible.