

PICC: (Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter)

What is a PICC?

A PICC [pik] is a long flexible tube (catheter) that is inserted into a large vein in your arm and then carefully moved into a large vein above your heart.

Why do I need it?

A PICC can be used to draw blood or to give medicines, fluids, nutrition, or blood products.

A PICC can be left in place much longer than an IV (intravenous) catheter. For this reason it is usually used with treatments that will last longer than a week.

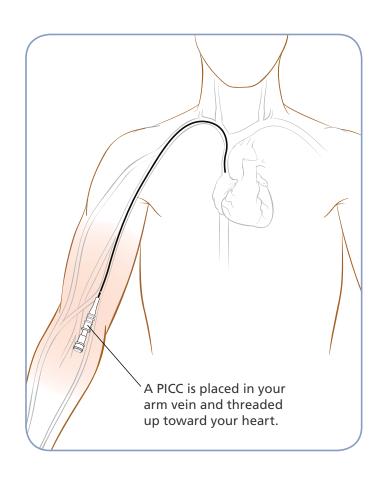
You may have a PICC only while you're in the hospital, or you may go home with it still in place.

How is it inserted?

The PICC is inserted by a healthcare provider specially trained to do this procedure.

When and how will my PICC be removed?

Your PICC will be removed when you no longer need the treatment it is delivering. It will be removed by your healthcare provider, and is usually a painless procedure.



Potential benefits	Risks and potential co	Alternatives	
 Fewer infections and complications are reported than with other types of central catheters. The catheter can remain in place throughout your therapy. Treatments can be given over a long period of time. 	As with any invasive procedut potential risks. Some of Infection Inability to position the catheter tip in the right place, making it necessary to repeat the procedure Blood clot	edure, there are uncommon of these include: • Bleeding • Vein irritation • Irregular heart rhythm • Damage to the catheter	Other available options to access your veins may include: • Peripheral IV in the arm or hand • Other options as discussed with your doctor

Questions	for my doc	tor:		
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