

# Porter Gets an IV



# Welcome to Porter Gets an IV!

This booklet aims to aid patients who are getting a vascular access device. It details the process of receiving an IV placement to help the patient understand the procedure, know what to expect, and ease any pre-procedure anxiety.

The story follows a dog named Porter as he prepares for and receives an IV. The booklet is complete with pictures of Porter's procedure and devices in pediatric mannequin arms in three locations (hand, forearm, antecube) for a realistic view of the IV. For patients who do not wish to see the line in a mannequin arm, these pictures appear at the back of the booklet and will include a blank page before the pictures to separate it from the rest of the story.

While clinicians created this story for children, anyone can use it to feel more comfortable with their procedure.

Instructions on how to assemble the booklet and which items you will need are included on the following page, after which the story will begin.

A very heartfelt thank you to Jackie Lutes, BSN, RN, CPN, VA-BC™, and her team for creating this story and for collaborating with the Vascular Access Certification Corporation to share it with other patients. Your thoughtfulness and diligence in making patients feel safe and prepared is deeply valued.

**Happy reading!**

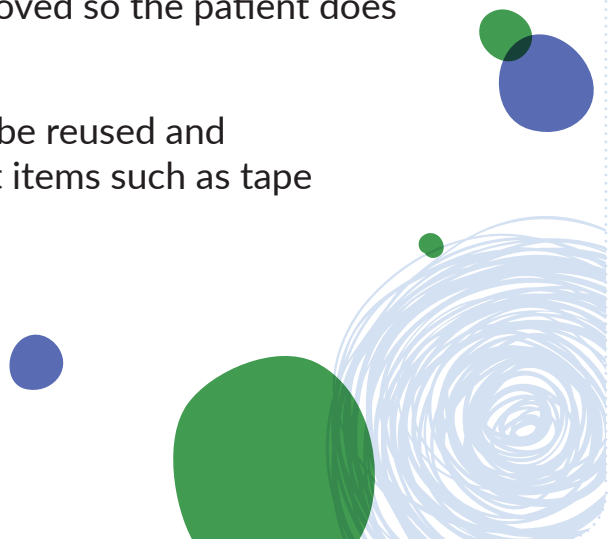




# How to assemble your booklet

1. Download and print off booklet pages.
2. Laminate pages
  - a. This ensures that the entire booklet can be wiped down with each use to prevent contamination and the integrity of the pages kept intact.
  - b. Ensure that the pages can fit into the rings of a binder for ease of use.
3. Assemble the pages into a 3-ring binder. The binder serves a dual purpose:
  - a. It is easy to disinfect between uses
  - b. It can be used to block the procedure from the patient's view for those that have anxiety or do not wish to watch.
4. Include the following items in the front pocket of the binder for tactile learners:
  - a. Tourniquet
  - b. IV extension tubing
  - c. Needleless cap (connected to IV tubing)
  - d. Small gauge IV catheters (needle removed)
  - e. Empty saline flush
  - f. J-tip adapter (unused but air removed so the patient does not set it off)

\*Please do not include items that cannot be reused and disinfected. If the patient is curious about items such as tape or dressing, show them instead.



Porter needs an IV to get his medication and to help him drink while he is in the hospital.

Porter is scared to get an IV, but the nurse makes him feel better by showing him what an IV is and how it will help him.





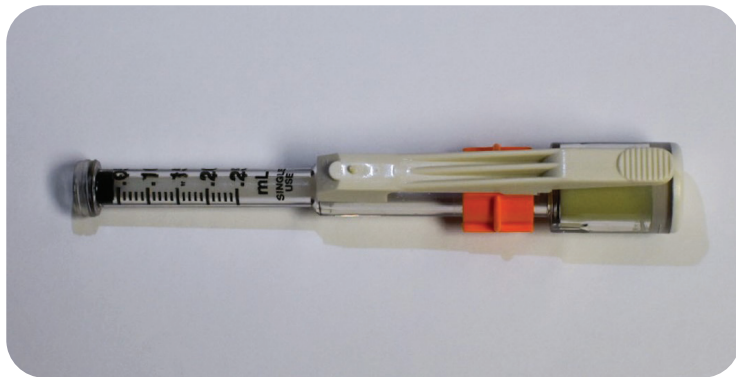
Porter learns an IV is a small straw-like tube that goes into a vein to give your body a drink and medicines. A vein is a small tube that is under your skin and helps move blood throughout your body.

Before an IV can be placed, the nurse explains to Porter that there are two different medicines that can help him from feeling the poke.

Porter gets to choose which numbing medicine he would like.

The first medicine is called a J-tip. A J-tip is a small pen like sprayer that makes a spot on your skin fall asleep long enough for the medicine straw to go in comfortably.

The J-tip is placed against the top of Porter's skin, and the nurse presses a button. There is a loud popping sound and Porter feels a tingle that goes away in one second. The J-tip has sprayed the numbing medication onto his skin.



The second medicine is a lotion. The nurse squeezes the lotion onto his paw and places a small sticker over the top. The lotion stays on for around 30 minutes and then the nurse peels off the sticker and wipes the lotion off of his paw.



- Porter is now ready for his IV! Porter holds very still while the nurse ties a stretchy blue ribbon around his arm. It feels like a tight squeeze around Porter's arm.



This stretchy band is called a tourniquet and helps the nurse find his veins more easily.

Porter's nurse wears gloves so no germs get on Porter.

Next the nurse takes a tiny wipe and scrubs the top of his paw.  
It feels cold and wet against his paw.



This tiny wipe helps clean Porter's skin  
before he gets his IV placed. No germs!







While Porter stays busy singing a song or looking at a book/tablet, the nurse counts to 3 – 1...2...3.

Porter feels a slight pressure on his paw, and when he looks down he sees that the IV is under his skin. The nurse says he was a very good helper holding his paw still and now his IV just needs stickers.



The nurse places a butterfly shaped sticker on top of the IV.

The nurse says, “This butterfly sticker will hold your IV in place, so it doesn’t come out of your paw”.

The tourniquet comes off!

The nurse attaches a clear tube with a small syringe on the end. The syringe is filled with water and acts like a squirt gun when the nurse pushes the end of it. The nurse uses it to squirt water into his vein through his newly placed IV. This water has a silly name called “a flush.”

Porter will now get his medicines and fluids through this clear tube.





The nurse places a larger sticker over the top of his new IV. This sticker feels like a very sticky band-aid and helps hold his new IV in place. The nurse then tells Porter that he is done!

**Porter can't believe it. "I did it!" he woofs.**



# Tips for IV Placement

## Distraction:

Books, tablets, phones, music, and toys can all be great distractions for kids who don't want to watch their IV be placed. It can be helpful to place the distraction on the opposite side of where the PIV is being placed so your child is looking away from the procedure.

## Positioning:

Is your child more comfortable in your arms? Sitting up? Ask the clinician about ways to hold your child to reduce stress and promote comfort.

## Treatment Room:

The treatment room is a special room for procedures. This allows your child's room to be a safe space. If you are interested in using this room, ask your clinician if a space like this is available.

Parents, you are welcome to step out if the procedure is stressful for you to watch. The clinician will take care of your child and bring you back once the procedure is done.

If you'd like to be present for the procedure, it is helpful to remain calm as children take cues from their parents. If you have any questions or concerns, please let your clinician know.



**Turn the page to see IVs  
in mannequin arms**



