

WHAT IS AN IV?



IV BASICS

An IV is a soft, bendy straw that can give your body drinks and medicine and let your nurse get blood from your body. The straw will go in your arm or hand.

STEP ONE

Your nurse will tie a stretchy rubber band around your arm that will feel tight. This will help your nurse find a good spot for your IV to go.



STEP TWO

Your nurse may tie the rubber band in a few different places. They will use their fingers to feel the skin on your arm and hand.

STEP THREE

Once your nurse has found the best place to put the IV, they will clean your skin with a cold, wet sponge. This gets rid of germs.



STEP FOUR

Now your nurse will put the IV in your arm or hand. You might feel a pinch, but that feeling will not last forever. The poke part of the IV comes out but the straw stays in.

STEP FIVE

Your nurse will put water through the straw that might feel cold. You might get a funny taste in your mouth that goes away quickly.



STEP SIX

Your IV will be kept safe with tape. Your nurse may also give you a pillow that wraps around your arm to make sure the IV stays in place.

STEP SEVEN

Your nurse might hook your straw up to a machine that will give your body drinks or medicine while you are here.



HELPFUL HINTS

While you are getting your IV, you can sit with a grown up, watch tv or a video, play a game on a phone or tablet, and use Buzzy to help you not feel the poke too much.