

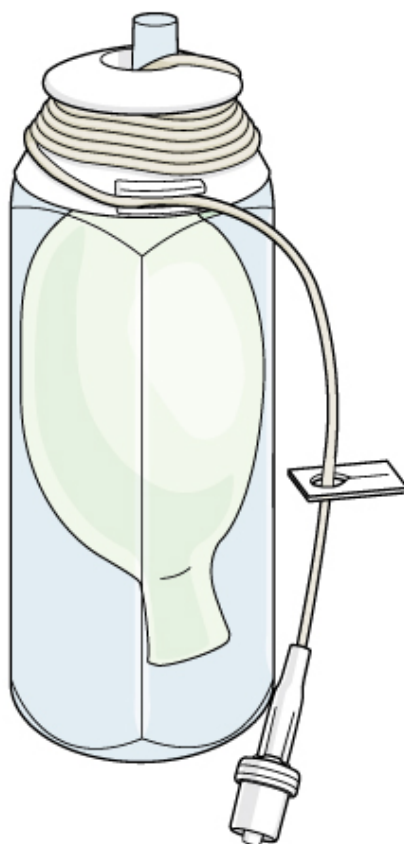


Your Intermate Pump

UHN

This pamphlet has information about:

- How your Intermate pump works
- How to care for and carry your Intermate pump
- Important tips for safety
- Important numbers to call if you need help



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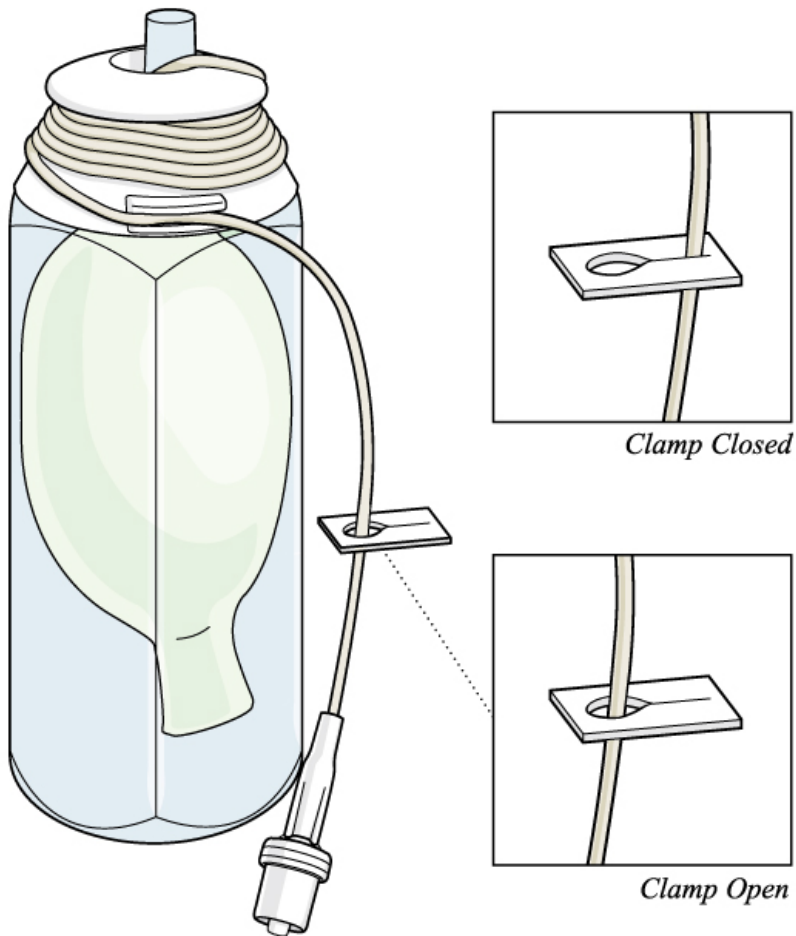
Form: D-5684



University Health Network
Toronto General Hospital Toronto Western Hospital Princess Margaret Hospital

What is an Intermate Pump?

An Intermate pump is a lightweight, disposable medication pump that gives you your medication directly into your body. Your medication is inside the balloon inside the pump.



How does the pump work?

Your pharmacist has selected a pump that will give you your medication over a specific amount of time as ordered for you by your doctor.

The pump is connected to an intravenous (IV) that will give you the medication into your vein.

You may already have an IV that can be used, or you will be given an IV if you do not have one.



How do I carry my pump around?

You can carry your pump in your pocket, a fanny pack, an over-the-shoulder purse, or your nurse can give you a carrying case for your pump. The pump will work in any position.

How do I take care of my pump?

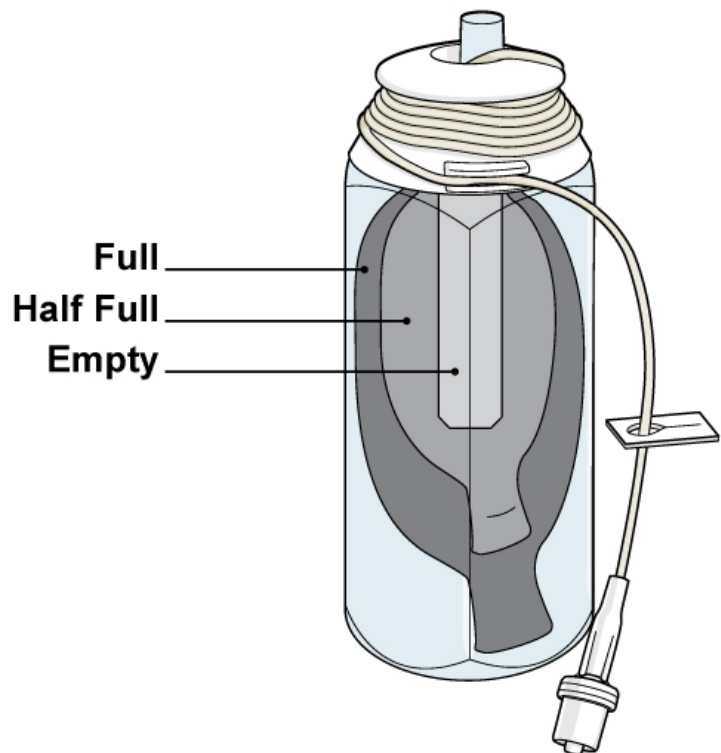
Keep your pump away from very hot or very cold temperatures, such as in a bath or sauna because different temperatures can change the speed that your medication is given to you.

Check the balloon inside the pump every 30 – 60 minutes. The balloon should be getting smaller over time. The usual time to finish your medication is between 2 ½ to 4 hours.

If the balloon is staying the same size, first check to make sure that:

- the tubing from the pump to your IV is not twisted
- all clamps are open

IMPORTANT: If there are no twists in the tubing, and the clamps are open but the balloon is still the same size since the last time you checked, contact your nurse. For information on how to contact your nurse please see the section “Who do I call for help?”



Who do I call for help?

If you have any questions about the pump, call the hospital.
See contact numbers below.

Please have the following information ready when calling the hospital:

1. Your hospital card number (MRN). This can be found on your blue hospital card.
2. Name of medication. This can be found on the medication label on the pump.

Call the Princess Margaret Hospital at 416-946-2000

Weekdays (Monday-Friday) between 9:00 am to 5:00 pm:

Ask the operator to connect you to the Chemo Unit and ask to speak to the “Charge Nurse”

Weekdays after 5:00 pm, any time on weekends, and during holidays:

Ask the operator to “page” the Nursing Supervisor.

This section is for patients with temporary IV's ONLY

How do I remove my temporary IV?

On your first treatment day you will be asked to stay at the hospital until your medication is finished, then your nurse will show you how to remove your IV.

During future visits, you will be given a package with:

- Sterile gauze
- Tape
- Band-aids

When your medication is finished and the balloon in the pump is empty, follow these steps:

1. Close the clamp on your pump.
2. Clean your hands and dry them well.
3. Open the gauze package.

4. Remove all the tape around the IV.
5. Place the gauze over the IV site and gently pull the IV out. Using the gauze, press down on the area where you removed the IV until the bleeding stops.

****If this is your first time removing your temporary IV at home, you may find it helpful to do this over a sink or towel as there may be a bit of blood or fluid from the IV.**

6. Put a band-aid over the place where your IV was. You can take the band-aid off after 12 to 24 hours.
7. Put the IV, pump, and tubing, into your normal garbage.
NOTE: Since your personal information is on the label, you may want to remove it and tear it up before you put the pump in the garbage.