

Having a cannula put in

Easy Read Leaflet

A cannula is a thin tube put in to a vein through which you can be given liquid medicine.



The nurse or doctor will put some cream on your hand and put a clear dressing on it.

The cream will stop it from hurting when the cannula is put in.



They will leave it for 30 minutes so that you will not feel the needle.



The nurse or doctor will wash their hands under the tap or with some hand gel.



They will dry their hands with a paper towel.



The nurse or doctor will get a tray and put all the equipment in it.



They will clean your skin with a sponge like this.



They will put a tight strap around your arm. Then they will put the needle into your skin. It won't hurt.



They will remove the needle but the plastic straw will stay in. This is called a cannula.



They will attach a long piece of tubing to it so that liquid medicine can be put in it when you need it.



A big plaster will be put over the top of it to keep it in place.



A bandage will be put on so you can't knock it.



It is all finished now.

- You will have to keep it dry.
- The nurse will take off the bandage and look at it before they give you your medicine.


It is important that:

- **If it hurts you must tell the nurse.**
 - **If it looks red you must tell the nurse.**
 - **If the bandage comes off you must tell the nurse.**
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Further information and advice can be obtained from:

NHS 111
NHS Choices online

 **111**
www.nhs.uk

Adapted with permission from Sam Parce - Acute Liaison Nurse for Learning Disabilities Cornwall Partnership Trust.

MTW NHS Trust is committed to making its patient information accessible in a range of languages and formats. If you need this leaflet in another language or format please ask one of your clinical care team or the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS). We will do our best to arrange this.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust welcomes all forms of feedback from our service users. If the standard of service you have received from the Trust does not meet your expectations, we want to hear from you. Please speak with the ward manager or the nurse in charge in the first instance, or you can contact the **Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)** on:

Telephone:  01622 224960 or  01892 632953

Email: mtw-tr.palsoffice@nhs.net

or visit their office at either Maidstone or Tunbridge Wells Hospital between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday.

You can be confident that your care will not be affected by highlighting any areas of concern or making a complaint. The Trust will retain a record of your contact, which is held separately to any medical records. If you are acting on behalf of a patient, we may need to obtain the patient's consent in order to protect patient confidentiality. More information on PALS or making a complaint can be found on the Trust's website: www.mtw.nhs.uk or pick up a leaflet from main reception.

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