

# **LIVE with Infusion Nurse Experts**

**Denise Harper MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CRNI®**

**Karen Johnson MSN, MBA, RN, CRNI®, CPUI, VA-BC**

**Britt Meyer PhD, RN, CRNI®, VA-BC, NE-BC**



# Learning Outcome

After the session, attendees will be able to discuss the answers to infusion nurses' frequently asked questions based on the *2016 Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice* and current clinical practice.

# Outline

- I. Overview of 'Ask INS' on INS website
  - A. Historical view - how 'Ask INS' started
  - B. What happens when a question is submitted to 'Ask INS'
- II. Panel members will present the answers to the most common, popular questions submitted electronically to 'Ask INS'.
- III. Panel members will answer questions that were submitted by conference registrants.

# History of ASK INS

- ASK INS started when the 2011 INS *Infusion Standards* were published to help members with questions regarding the *Standards*.
- Ask INS is a place where you can browse for answers of infusion-related questions. You can also submit a question of your own.



# About ASK INS

- Before submitting a question, you are encouraged to either **Browse by Category** or use the **Search by Keyword** function. In many cases the topic area of your question may have already been asked and answered.



## Ask INS

Ask INS is a place where you can browse for answers of infusion-related questions. You can also submit a question of your own.

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With hundreds of questions asked per week, we ask that you please allow sufficient time for your question to be addressed and answered.

The names of individuals and/or institutions have been removed for confidentiality purposes. In addition, questions may have been edited for brevity and clarity.

### Browse by Category

Standards of Practice: Section 5: Vascular

### Search by keyword

(must be 4 letters or more)

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### Submit your Question

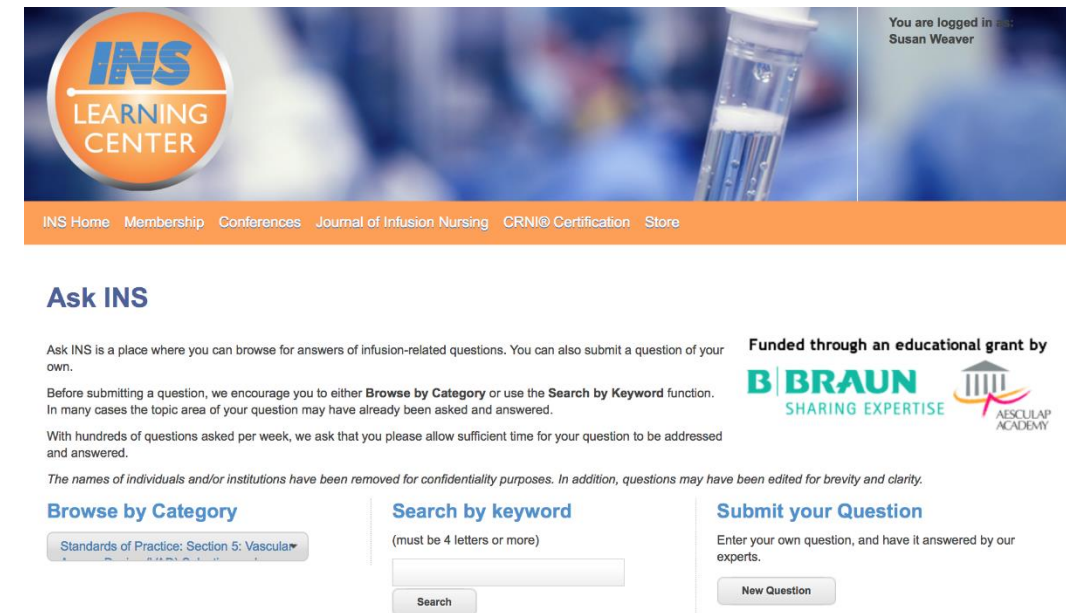
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- When the answer to a question is published, you are notified at the email address submitted.



The screenshot shows the ASK INS website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the INS Learning Center logo on the left and a user login status on the right: "You are logged in as Susan Weaver". Below the navigation bar is a main content area with the heading "Ask INS". The content area includes a paragraph explaining the purpose of the site, a section for "Browse by Category" with a dropdown menu showing "Standards of Practice: Section 5: Vascular", a "Search by keyword" section with a search bar and a "Search" button, and a "Submit your Question" section with a text input field and a "New Question" button. On the right side of the content area, there is a logo for B. Braun Aesculap Academy with the text "Funded through an educational grant by B. BRAUN SHARING EXPERTISE AESCULAP ACADEMY".

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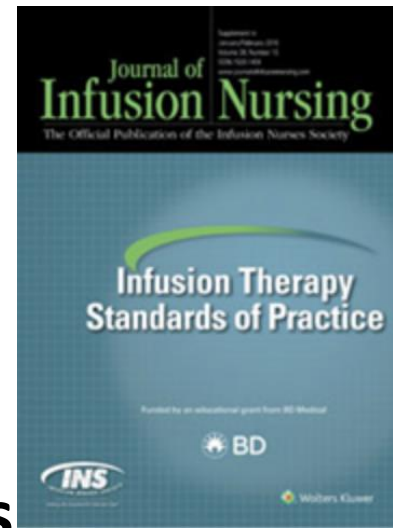
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# About ASK INS

- The answers to the ASK INS questions are NOT OPINION but are EVIDENCE-BASED.
- Published answers will refer to the specific *Infusion Standard(s)* in question and to one or more of the 9 Sections in the *Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice*.
- Other Resources: CDC, ISMP, ASPEN, ASHP, ONS, APIC, ANA, The Joint Commission, etc.



## Ask INS Answers (Category: Standards of Practice: Section 6: Vascular Access Device (VAD) Management)

**Q: Does the INS recommend sterile gloves and a sterile field when changing a needleless connector on a central line?**

Question posted 03/19/2018

**A:** Sterile gloves and a sterile field are not necessary when changing needleless connectors. Sterile gloves were not included in the 2016 Standards because its use is not evidence-based. The standard of care is that needleless connector changes are performed using aseptic no-touch technique. Sterile gloves are not necessary when handling the outside of add-on devices. Refer to 2016 Standard 34: Needleless Connector.

# The TOP TEN ASK INS Questions

**10.** What is the appropriate hand hygiene method for patients or caregivers who are performing infusion therapy in the home?

**Refer to 2016 Standard 1: Patient Care and Standard 19: Standard Precautions.**

## 9. What is the recommendation for flushing and dressing changes in the homecare setting?

Refer to 2016 Standard 40: Flushing and Locking and Standard 41: VAD Assessment, Care, and Dressing Changes

8. What is best practice for accessing an implanted port that has not used for 4 years?



**Refer to 2016 Standard 28: Implanted  
Vascular Access Ports.**

**7.** Should a chest x-ray for tip location be done on admission if the patient has a central vascular access device (CVAD)?

Refer to 2016 Standard 53: CVAD  
Malposition.

6. Can you start a peripheral IV in an extremity with a deep vein thrombosis (DVT)?

It's MAGIC.....



**5.** Should we place peripheral I.V.s in the shoulder area, upper chest, or breasts?

Refer to 2016 Standard 27: Site Selection

**4.** Should a peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) be removed from an extremity with a deep vein thrombosis (DVT)?

Refer to 2016 Standard 52: Central Vascular Access Device (CVAD)-Associated Venous Thrombosis

**3.** What is the keep vein open rate? Does this rate differ from a short peripheral catheter to a large bore dialysis catheter?

Refer to 2016 Standard 57: Parenteral  
Medication and Solution  
Administration.

## 2. Can a patient be discharged with a midline catheter in place?

**Refer to Standard 33: Vascular Access  
Site Preparation and Device  
Placement.**

# The #1 ASK INS Question



**1.** Should a midline catheter with no blood return be used for infusion therapy? How is it best to assess the midline catheter for functionality if there is no blood return?

Refer to 2016 Standard 40: Flushing  
and Locking

# Common Questions from Attendees & Members

# What size syringe is best to use when pushing infusion medications?

Refer to 2016 Standard 40: Flushing  
and Locking

What is the recommendation for how often to change a peripheral IV site?

Refer to 2016 Standard 44: Vascular Access Device (VAD) Removal

**My company has many infusion sites across the country that infuses biologics needing to be mixed in 100-1000ml NS. With the current saline shortage, the nurses are pulling saline from larger bags to make smaller bags. How many times can a bag be aseptically entered to do this?**

**Refer to 2016 Standard 17: Compounding and Preparation of Parenteral Solutions and Medications.**

<https://www.fda.gov/downloads/Drugs/DrugSafety/DrugShortages/UCM582461.pdf> .

<http://www.ismp.org/tools/guidelines/ivsummit/IVCGuidelines.pdf>



With the INS Standards no longer addressing drug pH, how are nurses to know what can be infused per midline versus a central venous catheter, i.e. Vancomycin?

Refer to 2016 Standard 26: VAD Planning.

# What is the recommendation for vascular access site care and skin preparation ?

**Refer to 2016 Standard 41: Vascular Access Device (VAD) assessment, Care, and dressing Changes**

In the home care setting, what is the risk of complications with add-on devices such as extensions sets?

How can we ensure an infusion is complete as medication remains in the tubing? For example, I have medication in a 50 ml bag, but the tubing holds 23 mls so the patient may be under dosed.

INS Standards state an add-on filter (PFO) should be placed at the end of the administration tubing. What if the patient has a PICC, and only receives IV push meds; should the PFO filter be connected to the PICC hub?



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3 comments **3 new** Most recent by Lynn Hadaway February 15 Site Care and Maintenance

**skin irritation on Lyme Patients**

2 comments **2 new** Most recent by Julie White October 2017 Site Care and Maintenance

**Allergy to Tegaderm vs Chlorhexidine and PICC Dressing Care**

6 comments **6 new** Most recent by Teresa Coleman June 2017 Site Care and Maintenance

**Auditing Central line dressings**

3 comments **3 new** Most recent by Lucinda Keating February 2017 Site Care and Maintenance

**Immobilization Device Recommendations**

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