



**UNDISPUTED**  
BEST IN CLASS

THE **POWERWAND**

Pediatric Patient  
Information Guide

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POWERWAND™  
Extended-Dwell Catheter

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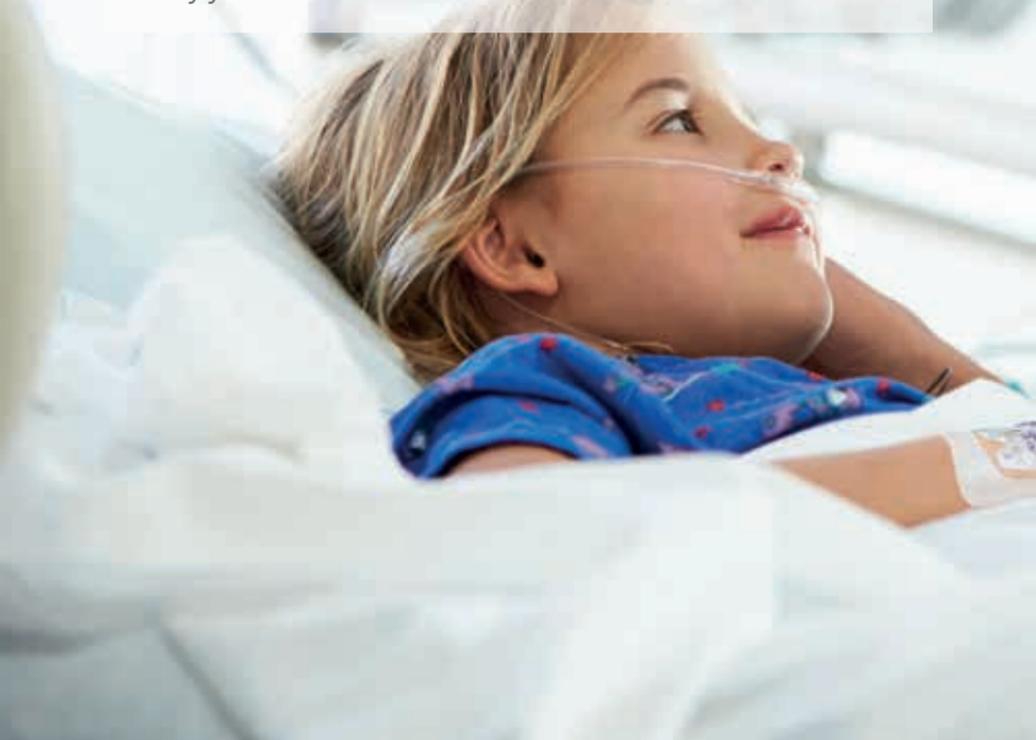
## PREFACE

The POWERWAND Extended-Dwell Catheter is not a PICC.

## INTRODUCTION

Your child has had a POWERWAND placed in their vein and secured with a catheter stabilization device. The purpose of this intravenous (IV) catheter is to administer fluids and medications, draw blood and inject contrast media for diagnostic studies. In other words, with the POWERWAND in place, your child can now receive intravenous therapy and have blood drawn without repeated needle sticks. The POWERWAND may have been slightly uncomfortable during its insertion, but it is important to know that it should be comfortable and pain-free during usage. The needle used for insertion has been removed; all that remains in the vein is a 2.4 inch catheter made of Chronoflex®C – which softens at body temperature.

If you suspect your child is experiencing any discomfort related to the POWERWAND, or you notice any unusual symptoms at or near the insertion or securement site, you should immediately notify your child's clinician and insist on an evaluation.





### **IMPORTANT WARNING**



This is a patient information guide, intended to help you become more comfortable with your child's IV catheter, its care and maintenance. This is not a POWERWAND direction for use. Your child's doctor or nurse should refer to the directions for use included in the POWERWAND packaging for complete instructions, warnings and precautions.

## CATHETER CARE AND MAINTENANCE

The POWERWAND needs to be kept clean, secure and patent (unlogged). Below is some useful information on how to do this – information your child's doctors and nurses should know. If you see the POWERWAND being managed differently, you should be comfortable asking your child's clinician about their approach.

### KEEPING THE POWERWAND CLEAN

1. The covering over the catheter, where it enters the skin, should be clean and dry at all times. If you see blood, dirt or fluid under or on the covering, notify a clinician or caregiver at once. A bandage/dressing change is in order.
2. Bandage/dressing changes should always be performed by a trained person using sterile technique. This technique prevents germs from contaminating the catheter and possibly entering the bloodstream.
3. Chlorhexidine gluconate (2% solution) should be used to clean the skin at the insertion site and **MUST** be allowed to dry completely before any overlying bandage/dressing is placed. If it does not dry, a rash may appear under the bandage/dressing.
4. A BioPatch® should be placed around the catheter at the insertion site prior to covering. This is also important in preventing infection.
5. Finally, the insertion site – once chlorhexidine is dry and BioPatch® is in place – should be covered with either a transparent dressing or tape and sterile gauze. If a transparent dressing is used, the site does not need to be cleaned and re-banded for 5-7 days, unless it becomes soiled, wet or loose. If tape and gauze are used, the site dressing should be changed at least every 48 hours.



### WORD OF WARNING

- No sharp instruments should be brought near the POWERWAND
- The catheter should not be allowed to piston in or out of the skin
- The catheter should never be exposed to acetone or polyethylene glycol solutions. Over time, these could degrade the polyurethane in the catheter



## FLUSHING

1. Flushing means pushing sterile fluid through the POWERWAND and extension set; this is done in order to keep the line from occluding due to either a blood clot or other kinds of build-up.
2. The POWERWAND can be flushed with sterile salt water, called normal saline. This should be done every 4-8 hours. The manner in which the flushing is done is important. It is sometimes helpful to remind your child's nurse to do so.
3. Flushing the POWERWAND should be done using the push/pause method: 2mL of normal saline is pushed through the line, then pause... then another 2mL of normal saline is pushed, then pause again. The total amount of the flush solution is up to the clinician, in accordance with their policy and procedures. You should feel free to remind them of the push/pause method. It is important.
4. Other kinds of catheters called PICC lines require normal saline plus heparin – a medicine that discourages blood clotting. The POWERWAND does not require “heparinized saline,” as it is called, but your child's clinician may still elect to use it.

## BLOOD SAMPLING

1. POWERWAND is cleared by the FDA for blood sampling, meaning blood test samples can be drawn through the POWERWAND instead of your child having to be stuck in another vein with another needle. Your facility may or may not elect to use the POWERWAND for this purpose.
2. The clinician should know the technique for sampling blood through an intravenous catheter. However, there are a couple of tricks worth knowing in case blood doesn't come out right away:
  - First, apply a tourniquet as high up from the catheter as possible
  - Draw back gently on the blood sampling syringe (no further than the 0.5mL mark)
  - Often, patience pays, wait 90 seconds while drawing back gently on the syringe. Usually, the blood will flow easily after this short wait
3. After blood samples, the POWERWAND should be flushed with normal saline (see Flushing section).

## CATHETER STABILIZATION DEVICE CARE AND MAINTENANCE

The ZPad™ catheter cushion and stabilization device that comes with the POWERWAND provides additional comfort and safety for your child's IV. The catheter pad provides a soft cushion under the hard plastic surface of the catheter hub and tubing set. The extension set that came with the POWERWAND is pressure rated, which means it has the ability to withstand the pressure of power-injection of contrast media. The ZPad needs to be changed at least every 7 days, or sooner if it becomes loose, soiled, wet or dirty. The extension set tubing may need to be changed sooner depending on what is infused through it. Clinicians or trained caregivers should follow the manufacturer's direction when changing the ZPad securement device.



## POWER-INJECTION THROUGH THE POWERWAND

The POWERWAND's directions for use are very explicit in directing clinicians how to perform power-injection. Clinicians must read those directions for use thoroughly prior to power injection. Here are some important things you should keep in mind:

- The extension set tubing that comes with the POWERWAND is power-injectable
- All connections between the catheter and any add-on tubing should be tightened before power-injection
- If your child is allergic to iodine or shellfish, **YOU MUST TELL** the radiologist **BEFORE** the procedure is initiated
- The fluid called “contrast media” should be warmed to body temperature before it is injected through the POWERWAND
- The POWERWAND should be flushed (see Flushing section) prior to and upon completion of power-injection, using the push/pause method

Finally, and most important, if your child is able to communicate, they should feel comfortable letting the clinician know of ANY discomfort during the power-injection procedure.

## POTENTIAL CATHETER PROBLEMS



The POWERWAND and ZPad should rest comfortably in and on the skin. Call the doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the following:

- Bleeding or drainage from or around the catheter or tubing
- Redness or swelling anywhere near the catheter
- Pain or discomfort at any time
- Movement of the catheter in or out of the insertion site
- Kinking or unusual bending of the catheter tubing
- Skin rash or discoloration
- Itching at or near the insertion site or ZPad
- Any change or development that concerns you

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### NOTES:





Superior Design



Easiest Insertion



Unrivalled Performance



Patient Safety

THE

POWERWAND™

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This product is covered by one or more US patents or patent applications.

See <http://accessscientific.com/patent-information/>

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