



The Baxter Infusor

A guide for patients and their carers



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Christie website

For more information about The Christie and our services, please visit **www.christie.nhs.uk** or visit the cancer information centres at Withington, Oldham or Salford.

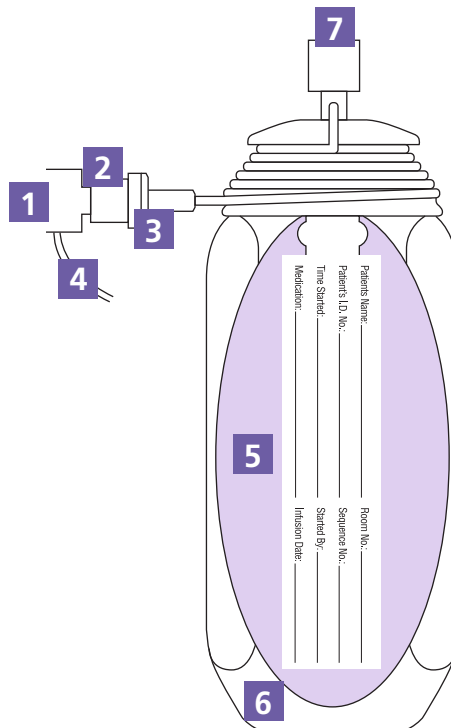
What is a Baxter Infusor?

This is a lightweight, disposable pump containing Systemic Anti-Cancer Therapy (SACT). We use it to give a slow, continuous infusion into your bloodstream via a Central Venous Access Device (CVAD) including a tunnelled Central Venous Catheter (CVC), Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) or Implanted Port.

This allows SACT treatment to be given continuously over a period of time via an infusor whilst at home. The SACT is contained in a balloon reservoir inside a casing. No batteries are used in the infusor and it does not make any noise. (See Fig 1).

- 1 Winged cap**
- 2 Connector** attaches the infusor to your CVAD
- 3 Flow restrictor** controls how fast your SACT is given
- 4 Delivery tubing** carries the SACT to your CVAD
- 5 Balloon** holds the SACT
- 6 Infusion scale** marks on outside of device showing how much SACT has been given
- 7 End cap** seals and protects the infusor system

Fig 1



The staff will arrange for the district nurse to visit you at home to disconnect your infusor pumps.

When filled with SACT, the balloon deflates and slowly pushes the SACT up through the CVAD at a fixed rate. As this happens, the balloon gradually becomes smaller and moves down the scale on the side of the outer casing.

What are the benefits of a Baxter Infusor?

You can have your treatment at home. This allows you to continue with your daily activities rather than having to stay overnight in hospital throughout the treatment.

What are the risks of a Baxter Infusor?

The infusor can occasionally stop working or will empty sooner than anticipated. These problems do not happen often but, if they do occur, you should contact The Christie Hotline for advice.

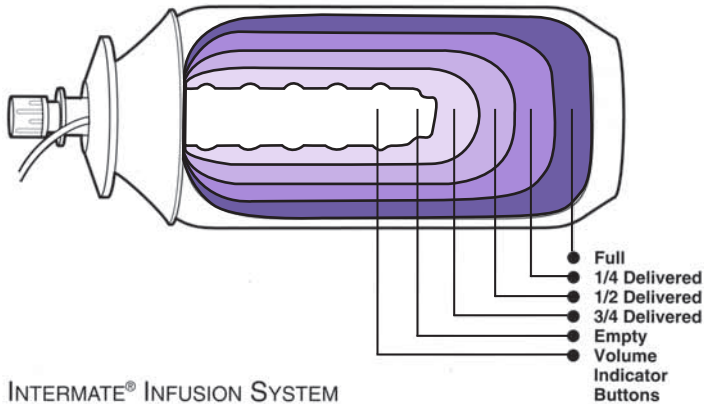
How to dispose of an empty infusor

When the district nurse has disconnected the empty infusor, from your CVAD, it will be placed in a purple lidded sharps bin, which must be sealed and returned to The Christie on your next visit. **DO NOT** put the infusor in your refuse bin at home.

How do you monitor your infusor?

You should look at the balloon or scale on the side of the infusor every morning and evening to make sure the infusor is working correctly (See Fig 2). If the infusor empties before the district nurse's visit, switch it off using the clamp on your CVAD.

Fig 2



What to do if the infusor is faulty or leaky

In the unlikely event that your infusor is leaking, do not worry. To prevent further spillage of SACT to the surrounding area, clamp your CVAD and place the infusor into the purple lidded sharps bin. Wash hands thoroughly and contact The Christie Hotline for advice.

Other questions you may have

How do I wear my infusor?

The infusor needs to be kept close to your body and you must avoid accidentally dropping it. The infusor is supplied with a bag.

What do I do if the infusor runs out before my next clinic appointment?

If your infusor is empty a few hours or up to a day before your next clinic appointment or district nurse appointment, clamp off your CVAD and leave the infusor in place – **DO NOT** disconnect the infusor. However, in the unlikely event that the infusor is empty for more than a day before you are due at clinic, please contact The Christie Hotline for advice. See contact numbers at the end of this booklet.

Can I have a shower with the infusor?

If you normally take a shower you must not get the infusor wet. You can put it into a plastic bag and hang it up on the outside of your shower, away from the water.

Wearing an infusor when sleeping

When you go to bed you can either keep the infusor in the bag or put it into a clean sock. Use a safety pin to pin the sock to your nightwear. This will be more comfortable whilst sleeping.

Instructions for district nurses

How to disconnect the infusor from a CVAD

To remove an infusor connected to a CVAD (CVC, PICC or Implanted Port) please follow steps 1 to 18 carefully.

Equipment:

- Plastic tray or sterile field e.g. dressing pack
- Disposable apron
- Alcohol hand gel
- Non-sterile **nitrile** gloves
- Purple lidded sharps bin
- Waste bag
- 2% Chlorhexidine in 70% Isopropyl Alcohol wipe (Sani-Cloth)
- 10ml 0.9% Sodium Chloride (Posiflush) **or** 1 x 10 ml luer-lock syringe, 1x10ml 0.9% Sodium Chloride, 1x blunt fill needle
- Flat ended bung
- Large bung

Procedure:

1. Wash hands thoroughly using the six step technique. Dry.
2. Put on disposable apron.
3. Clean the tray from the inside out, as per ANTT guidance and allow to air dry (Alternatively open sterile dressing pack).
4. Prepare the equipment in the tray, maintaining ANTT throughout, protecting the key parts.
5. Assess site for signs of infection or thrombosis, report immediately if present.

6. Clean hands with alcohol gel and put on **nitrile** gloves.
7. Ensure CVAD is clamped.
8. Disconnect the empty infusor pump from the CVAD by turning the connector anti-clockwise.
9. Attach a large bung on the connector at the end of the pump tubing, or remove the end cap from the empty infusor pump and attach the pump tubing connector to it. (No.7 on Figure 1).
10. Place immediately into the purple lidded sharps bin, and seal the bin.
To be returned to Department 1 in the Trust for correct disposal
11. Clean the end of the CVAD with 3 separate parts of the Sani-Cloth, for a minimum of 30 seconds and allow to air dry.
12. Attach the 10ml 0.9% Sodium Chloride, unclamp the CVAD and flush using a push-pause technique, clamping the CVAD whilst administering the last 1 ml, remove the syringe and dispose in a waste bag.
13. Attach a new flat bung to the end of the CVAD. Remove gripper needle from the Implanted Port, if applicable.
14. Dispose of any remaining waste appropriately.
15. Clean tray or dispose of sterile field.
16. Remove apron and gloves.
17. Clean and dry hands.
18. Complete all documentation, including the label on the sharps bin.

Contacts

If you need advice, information about the Baxter Infusor, or have any problems please phone The Christie Hotline on **0161 446 3658**.

If you have a problem with your CVAD, please contact the Procedure Team on **0161 446 3446** (9am - 5pm).

If you need information in a different format, such as easy read, large print, BSL, braille, email, SMS text or other communication support, please tell your ward or clinic nurse.

The Christie is committed to producing high quality, evidence based information for patients. Our patient information adheres to the principles and quality statements of the Information Standard.

If you would like to have details about the sources used please contact the-christie.patient.information@nhs.net

Contact The Christie Hotline for
urgent support and specialist advice

The Christie Hotline: 0161 446 3658

Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Visit the Cancer Information Centre

The Christie at Withington **0161 446 8100**

The Christie at Oldham **0161 918 7745**

The Christie at Salford **0161 918 7804**

Open Monday to Friday, 10am – 4pm.

Opening times can vary, please ring to check
before making a special journey.

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