

Infusing Home Chemotherapy with a Balloon System: C-Series

How will I infuse my chemotherapy at home?

You will receive your home chemotherapy with a Non-Electronic Balloon System (commonly called an EIS) at the rate ordered by your doctor. This system infuses with body heat and pressure when the balloon is filled with medication (see pictures below).

Figure 1: EIS Full



Figure 2: EIS Empty



What should I expect?

A nurse will connect your chemotherapy in the Infusion Center when you are ready to go home. The EIS will be filled with chemotherapy as ordered by your doctor. As the medication infuses, the balloon inside the EIS will slowly shrink and empty. Your nurse will tell you how long your infusion will take. Verify your disconnection day and time with your nurse. If an appointment is necessary for disconnection, ask the nurse to verify the time and date to be sure it is appropriate.

Here are some helpful tips while connected to the EIS system:

Carrying the EIS:

You can place the EIS in a small pouch to carry with you. Keep the EIS container in the pouch and always wear it outside of your clothing to ensure it does not get too warm. Ensure that the EIS inside of the carrying case is never pinned between your body and another surface. Applying extra pressure on the outside of the EIS can make the infusion run too fast.

Maintaining your EIS:

- Do not get your dressing or your EIS wet
- Do not clamp the EIS tubing unless instructed to do so
- Your nurse will tape the tubing in a special way to help it infuse at the correct rate. Do not remove any of the tape during the infusion
- There is an “air filter” in the tubing that needs to remain uncovered; it can be worn under your clothing and must be kept dry at all times; **do not tape this to your skin (see picture below).**



- No air travel while connected to your EIS unless approved by your doctor

Avoid extreme temperatures:

The EIS will infuse faster or slower if your body becomes very hot or cold. Avoid exposing it to heat or cold:

- Use moderate water temperature when bathing
- Protect it from direct sunlight or very cold weather
- Do not swim or use a hot tub while the EIS is connected to you
- Do not use a heating pad, heated blankets or anything else that can raise or lower the temperature of the EIS while you are connected

- Do not participate in exercises that cause the body heat to increase while connected to your EIS

Checking the EIS:

Check the balloon every morning and every evening while you are connected to be sure the balloon is going down in size - this means the chemotherapy is infusing as ordered. It usually does not shrink evenly - it may look puckered or uneven, which is expected. It may take a few hours before you begin to notice any change. If it does not look like it is getting smaller in size, check the tubing to be sure it is not clamped or kinked. If it does not look like it's getting smaller the next time you check, call HomeMed at (800) 862-2731.

Sleeping with the EIS:

When sleeping, keep the device at approximately the same level as your IV catheter. Put it into a small box or container next to you on the bed or on a bedside table. Do not put it under the covers as it will get too warm and may infuse too quickly. Placing the EIS up by your pillow is another good place to put it while you are sleeping.

Finishing the infusion:

It may look like your infusion is done early. The amount of chemotherapy you receive each hour is very small (approximately one teaspoon) - therefore, the EIS can look empty but still have many hours of chemotherapy remaining. It is very important to remain connected to your EIS for the prescribed amount of hours to ensure you receive the full dose of chemotherapy ordered by your doctor.

What will it look like when it is connected?

The EIS will be connected to your IV catheter and will look very similar to the picture in "Figure 1: EIS Full" on page 1.

How will I know when my infusion is done?

When empty, the EIS will look very similar to the picture in “Figure 2: EIS Empty” on page 1. Remember, it may look empty early but it is important to remain connected for the full time ordered by your doctor or you may not receive the full dose of chemotherapy ordered.

What if my infusion looks like it is running too fast or taking too long?

If your infusion is looks like it is infusing too quickly, or taking longer than expected, call HomeMed at (800) 862-2731. They will be happy to help you.

What if my infusion tubing becomes disconnected?

If your infusion tubing becomes disconnected it is important to close the clamp on the tubing as quickly as possible. Then call HomeMed at (800) 862-2731.



What if I have questions or need help with my EIS after I’m home?

The HomeMed department is available to assist you with any problems or questions related to your EIS infusion device. You can call them at (800) 862-2731. They will be happy to help you.

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