

Leveraging Technology to Improve Patient Safety with Port Deaccessing After Home Infusion

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Problem

- Identified need to improve patient education on how to deaccess implanted ports at home, with home infusion chemotherapy.

Introduction

- Home infusion chemotherapy requires patients to deaccess their own implanted port at home or return to clinic for deaccess.
- Education is provided to patients and their caregivers on day one of treatment and includes handouts and access to a 24-hour nurse advice line.
- Patients expressed concern with the vast amount of education provided on the first day of treatment.

Objectives

- Create step-by-step instructional video on how to deaccess implanted ports, accessible at home through YouTube.
- Improve patient safety with port deaccessing after completion of home infusion chemotherapy.
- Decrease number of patients who return to have their port deaccessed.

Methods

- Chemotherapy RN wrote script for step-by-step instructional video, to walk through the procedure of deaccessing ports.
- Content vetted by all chemotherapy RNs, nurse manager, and vascular access lead RN.
- Each step is shown slowly, as the process is explained and closed captions are displayed.
- Video filmed by hospital medical media team and uploaded to YouTube.
- QR code and YouTube link is provided to all patients with home infusion chemotherapy.

Results

- "Finishing Your Chemotherapy Infusion at Home," video was uploaded to YouTube in November 2024.
- Video has been viewed 1,086 times.
- Patients have easy access to video at home, for instructions on how to deaccess port.
- Expected to decrease patient visits to the clinic or emergency department.
- Number of patients who return to clinic to be deaccessed will be assessed at 6 months and 1 year post upload of video.

Discussion

- This RN-created patient education video is an innovative solution to managing outpatient home infusion chemotherapy.
- This method of instruction could be used for other patient education needs such as administering subcutaneous injections at home.

Contact

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References

"Implanted Venous Port: Deaccess (Ambulatory)-CE/NCPD," (2025). Elsevier Performance Manager, Clinical Skills. https://point-of-care.elsevierperformancemanager.com/skills/24418/quick-sheet?skillId=AM_268&virtualname=portlandvamc-orportland

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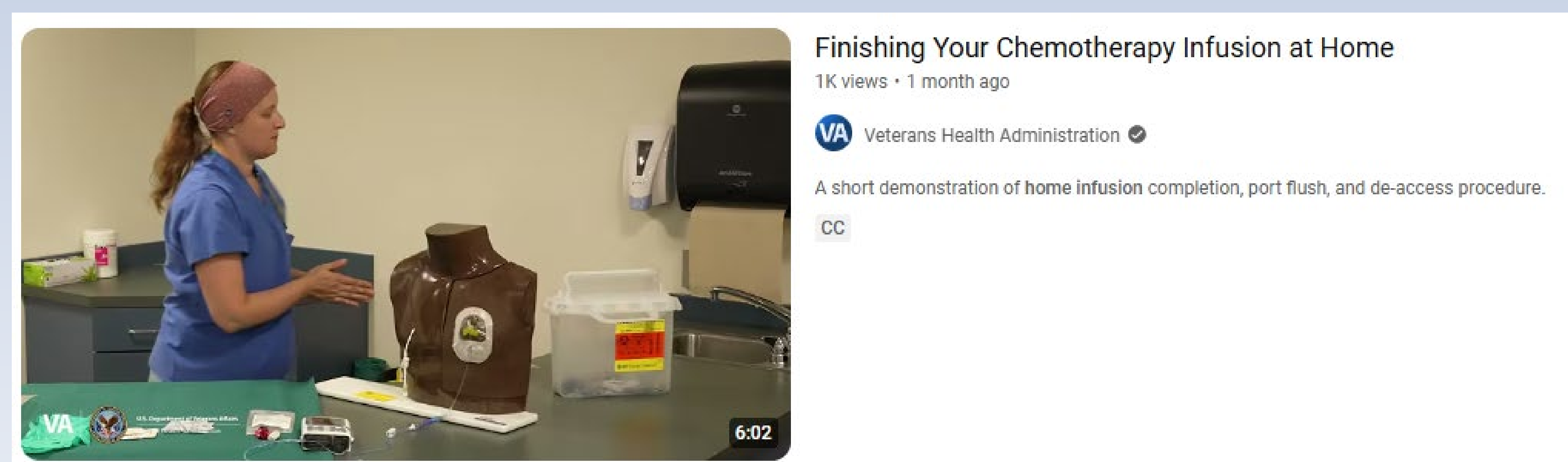


Figure 1: Finishing Your Chemotherapy Infusion at Home YouTube video.



Figure 2: QR code for accessing video.