

**PICC Line**



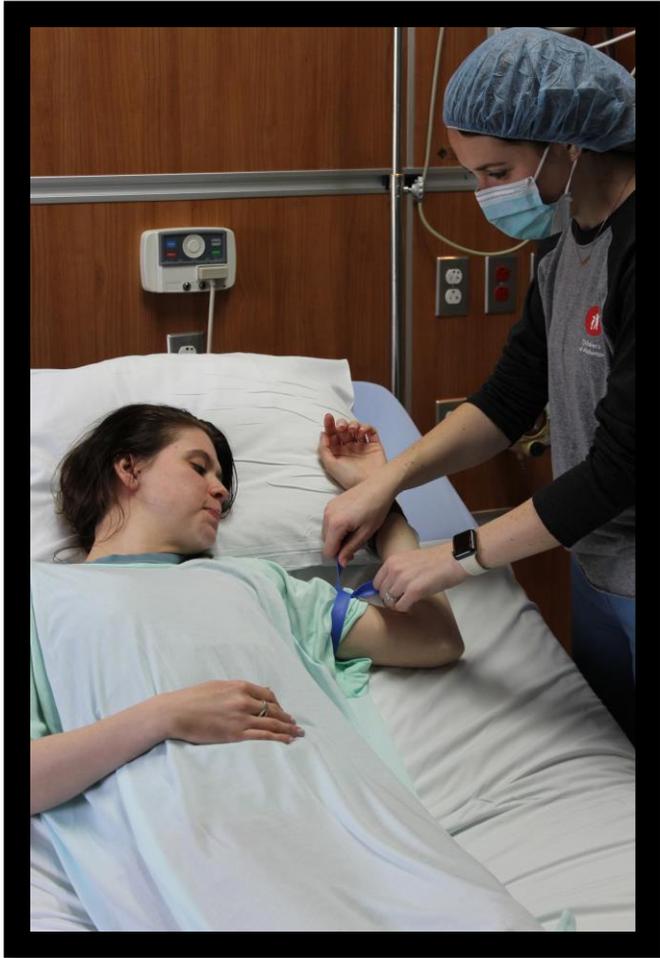
I am at the hospital today.



Today I am going to get a PICC line.

A PICC line is a bendy tube that will go into my arm.

This tube will give me medicine while I am at the hospital.



First the nurse will tie a rubber band called a tourniquet around my arm.

This may feel a little tight on my arm.

That's ok because it helps my nurse see which vein will work best for my PICC line.



The nurse will use an ultrasound machine to look at my veins.



The ultrasound machine uses gel and a small camera to find my veins.

The gel may feel a little cold on my skin.

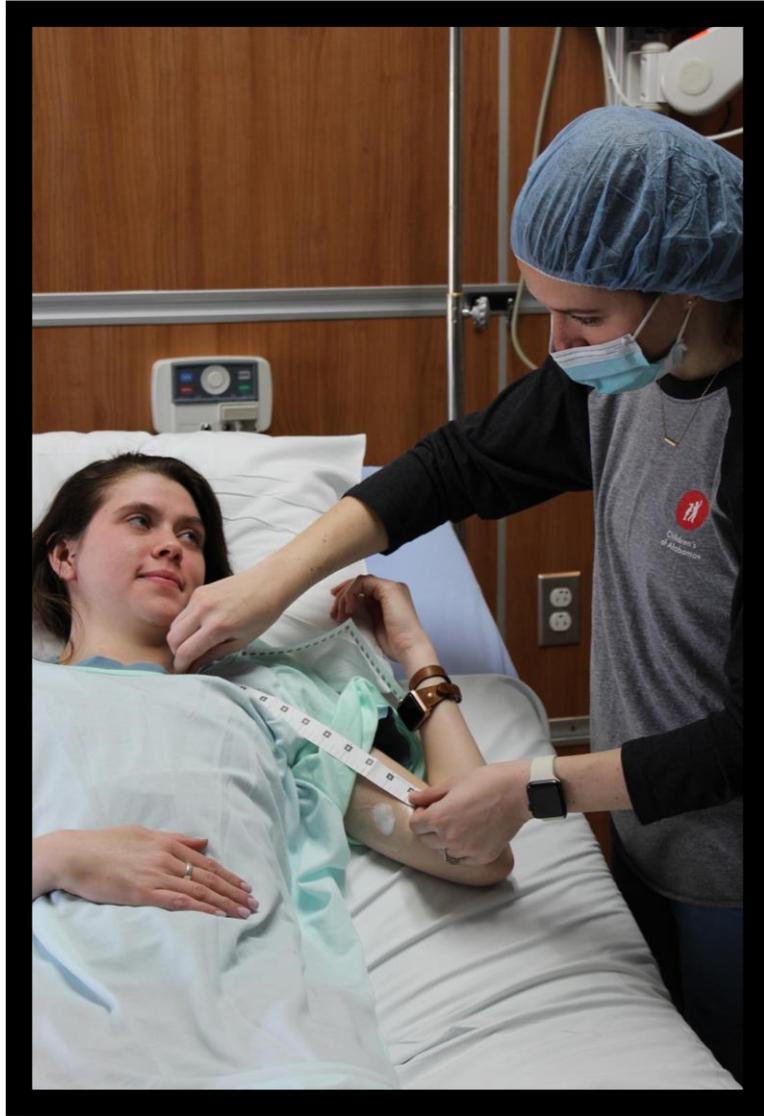
The nurse will wipe it off when she is done.



The nurse will place a special medicine on my skin that looks like lotion.

This medicine helps numb my skin.

Numb means my skin will not feel pain.



Next the nurse will use a ruler to measure from my arm to my chest.



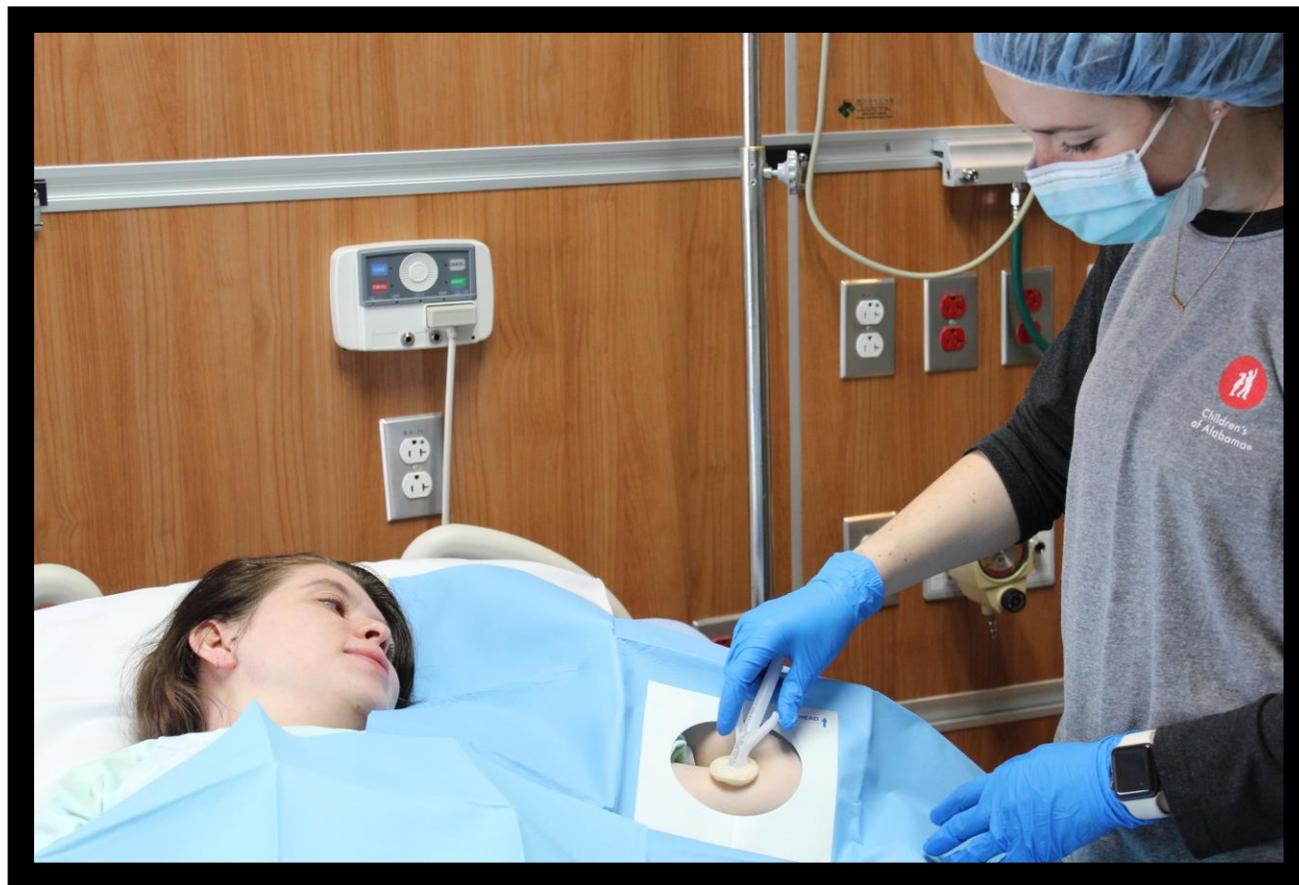
For my PICC line I will need to lay flat on my bed.



The nurse will tie the tourniquet on my arm again just like before.



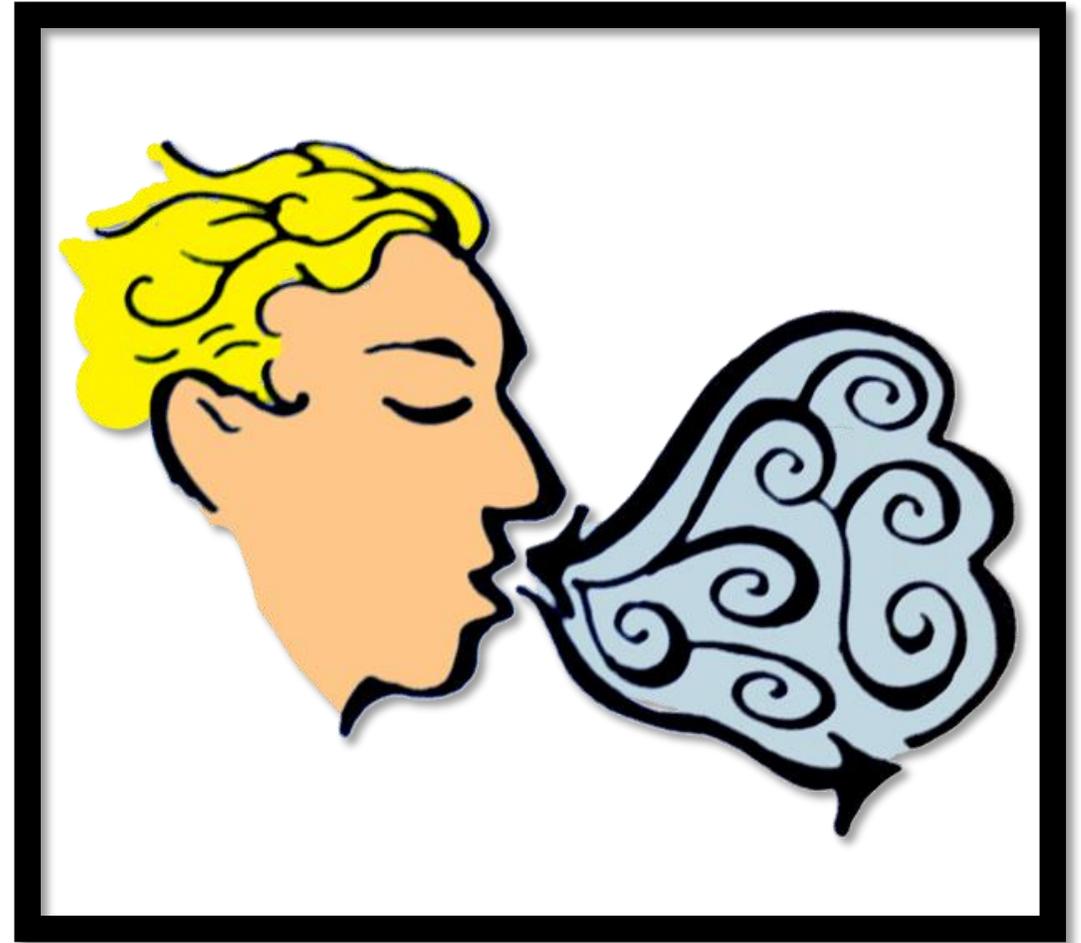
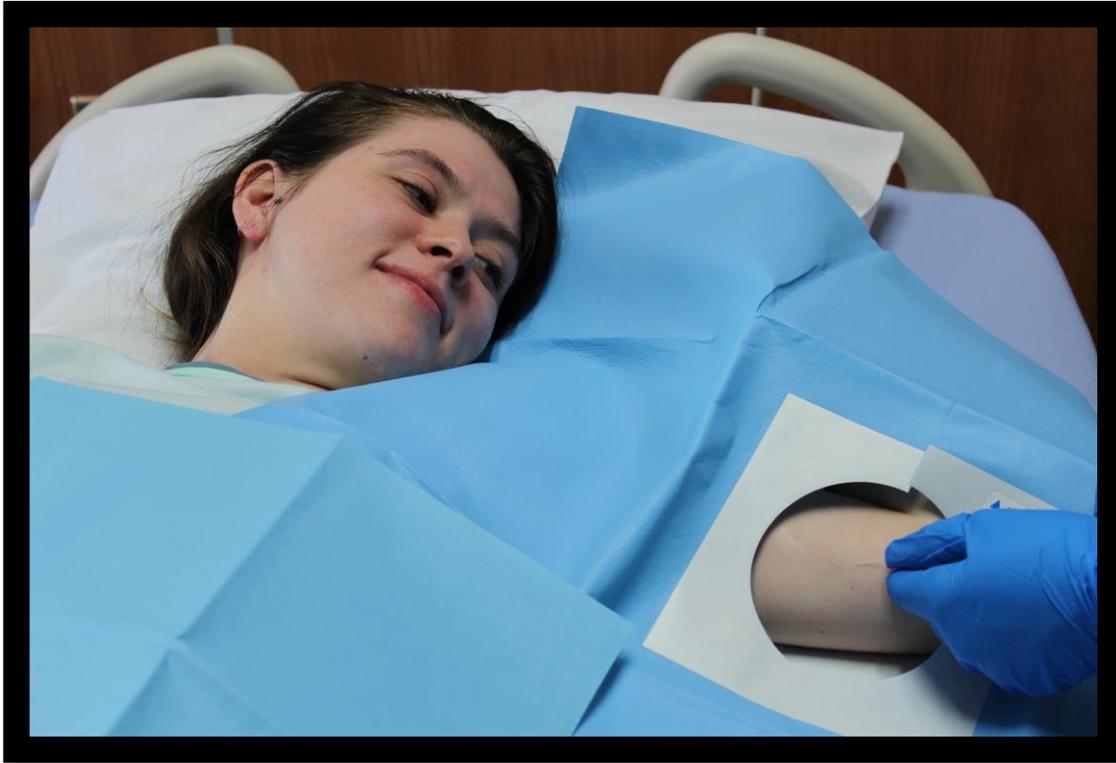
The nurse will lay blue towels around my arm.  
The towels keep germs from getting on my skin.  
It is important that I do not touch the blue towels.



The nurse will clean my skin with a sponge.

The sponge may feel wet on my skin.

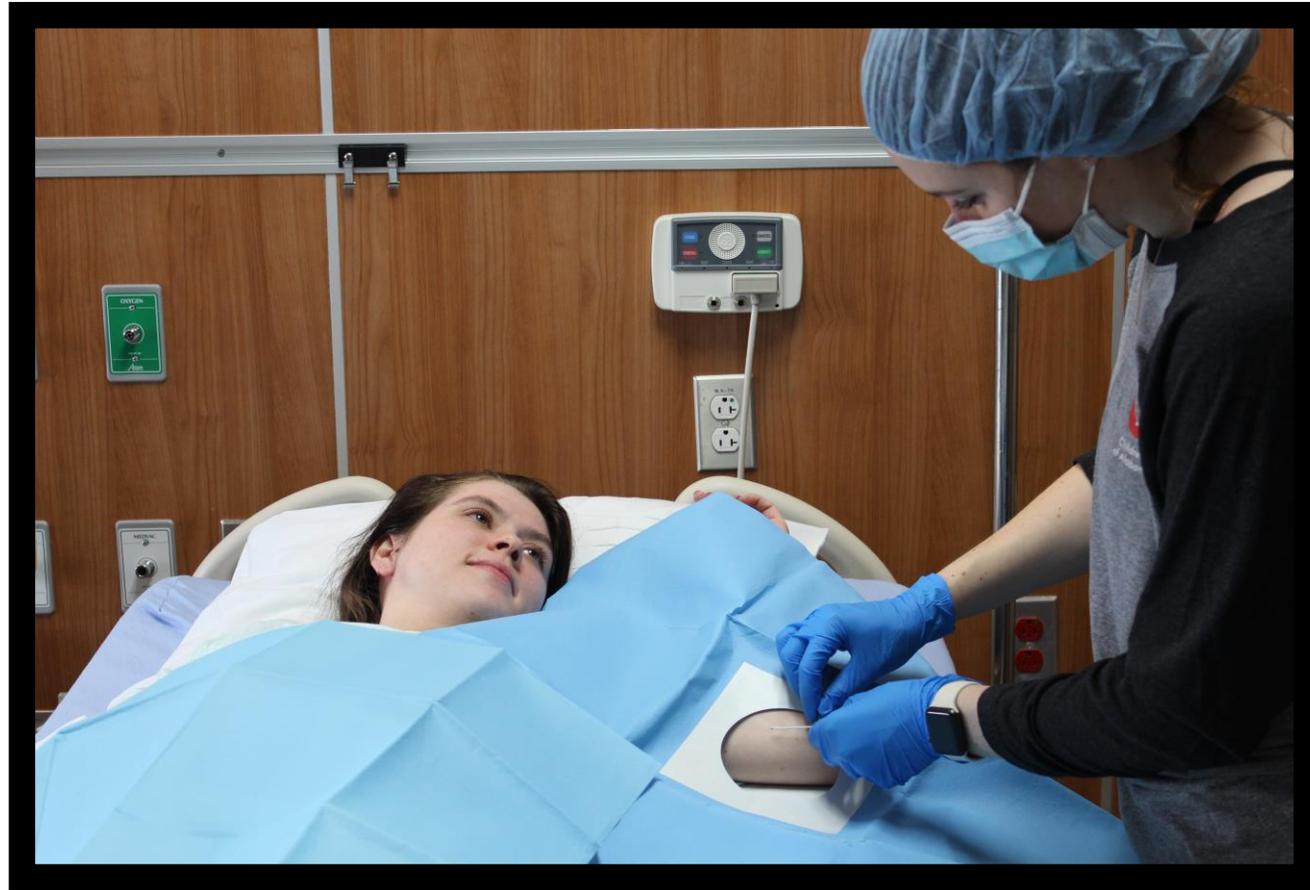
This will get rid of any germs on my skin.



The nurse will then use a small needle to give extra medicine to numb my skin more.

The extra medicine may burn.  
I can take deep breaths to stay calm and relaxed.

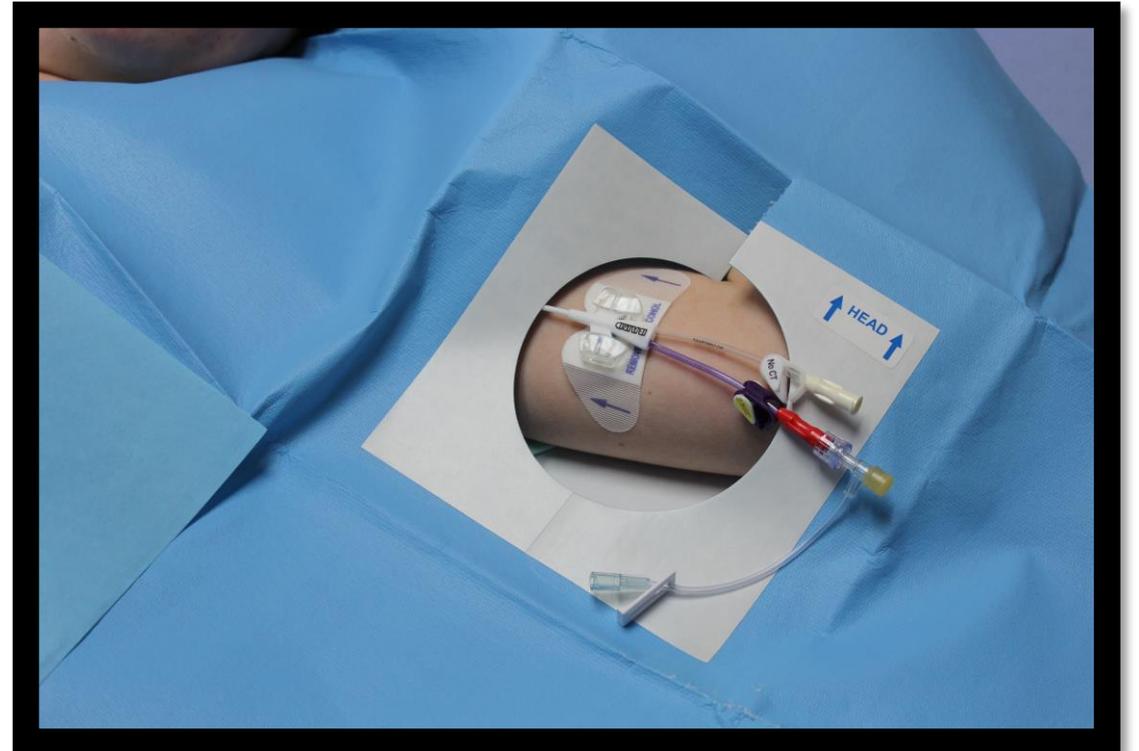
My job is to stay still.



The nurse will push my PICC line into place.

I may feel pressure or pushing but I should not feel anything that hurts.

It is important that I stay still while I get my PICC line.



When my PICC line is in the nurse will use tape and band aides to keep my PICC line from moving.



This is what my PICC will look like when I am all done.

I am going to do great.

This social story has been developed as a resource for families, clinical practitioners and trainees at The Children's Hospital of Alabama by the Sensory Task Force. Effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this story, but it is the user's responsibility to evaluate the appropriateness of this information for each clinical situation (1st ed. 2018)