

Port Access





I am having my port accessed.

My port is underneath my skin and helps me get medicines my body needs.



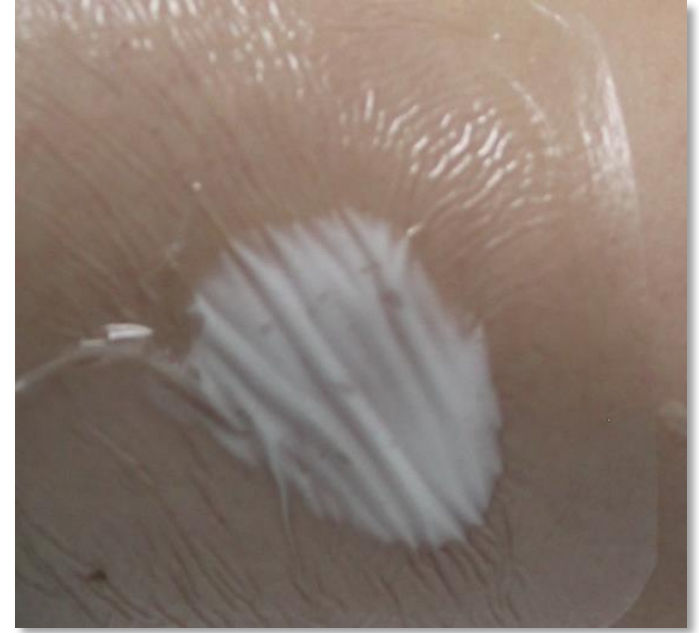
First, I will need to uncover the area where my port is.

I can take off my shirt, take one arm out of my shirt, or hold my shirt.



My nurse will place numbing cream on the skin that covers my port.

The cream may feel cold, that's ok it is numbing my skin so I don't feel a poke feeling.



My nurse will place a clear bandage over the numbing cream.



My numbing cream will stay on for 30 minutes.

After 30 minutes it will be time to access my port.



The nurse will remove my clear bandage.



The nurse will wipe the numbing cream off with a soft gauze or towel.



I will put a mask on.

Wearing a mask protects my body from germs while my port is accessed.



My nurse will also put a mask on and gloves.



The nurse will clean the skin that covers my port.

It is important that I stay still and do not touch the skin that has been cleaned.

I can hold someone's hands if I need extra help keeping my hands still.



The nurse will use her fingers to feel my port.

The nurse is wearing clean gloves, so it is ok that she touches my clean skin.

My job right now is to stay still and hold my shoulders back.



The nurse will use a needle to access my port.

I remember that my skin is numb.

I will feel pressure on my port, I am ok.



The nurse will use a syringe to pull blood back from my port.

This helps the nurse know that my port is accessed in the right place.



The nurse will cover my accessed port with a large clear bandage.



I did it!

This is what my port looks like accessed.

My port will stay accessed while I am in the hospital.



I can take my mask off.

All done



I am all done!

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)