

# Care of Elastomeric Pump – Patients on Chemotherapy

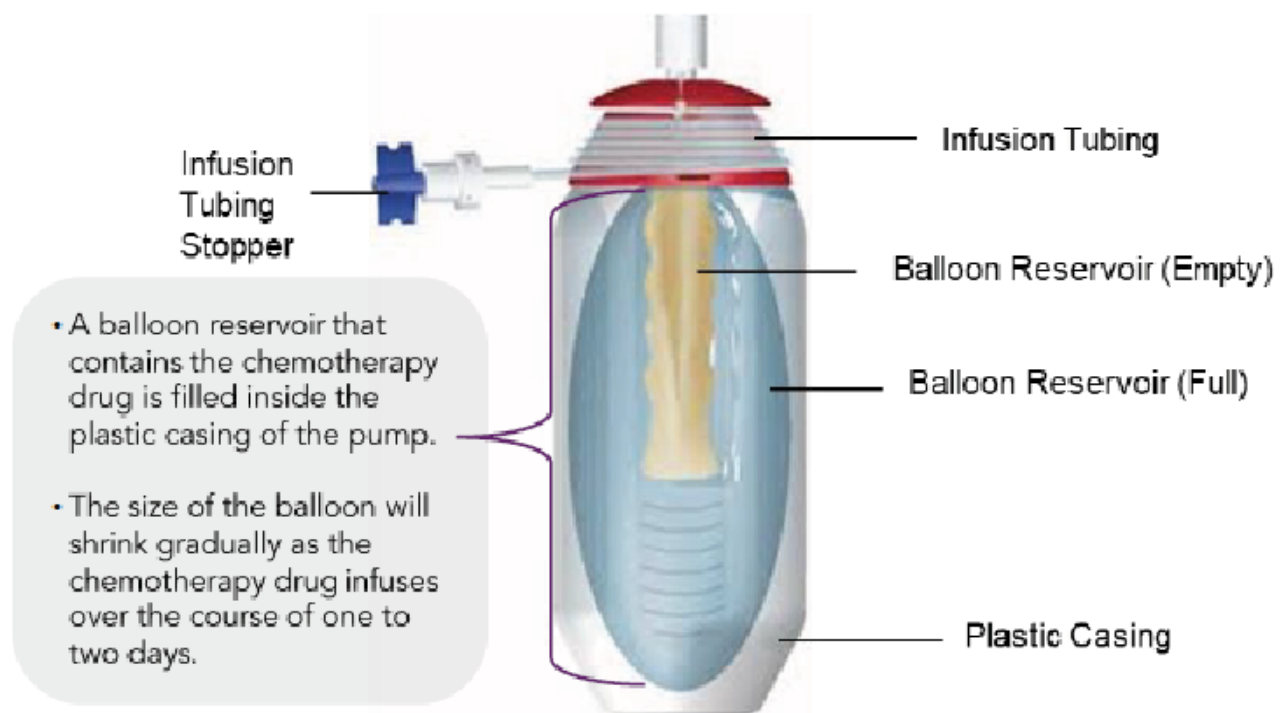
## 1. What is a large volume (LV) infusor?

- LV infusor is a lightweight and disposable pump that delivers chemotherapy drug to the body over one to 2 days depending on the chemotherapy treatment of the patient.

## 2. What are the features of the LV infusor? (refer to pic 1)

- Consist of a balloon reservoir that contains the chemotherapy drug is filled inside the plastic casing of the pump.
- The size of the balloon will shrink gradually as the chemotherapy drug infuses over the course of one to two days.

### Pic 1. Large Volume (LV) infusor



### 3. How is the LV infusor connected to patients? (refer pic. 2)

- The LV infusor is connected to a vascular access device such as the Peripheral Inserted Central Catheter (PICC) or Port-A-Cath.

#### Pic 2



Example of a Peripheral Inserted Central Catheter (PICC)



Example of a Port-A-Cath

1. The LV infusor must be:
  - Kept in a special carrier supplied by the vendor at all times.
  - Kept dry at all times.
  - Placed at the side of your body where the infusor is connected when you are sleeping.
  - Avoid from prolonged exposure to sunlight.
  - Carry at waist level when walking at all times.
2. Wipe your body with wet towel when you are connected to the LV infusor.




## Care of Elastomeric Pump (Refer pic. 3)

The nurse will provide you with a checklist and/or instructions to monitor your LV infusor at home

1. Monitor infusion by comparing the balloon size to progress lines on the LV infusor.
2. Infusion is complete when the 'balloon' is fully deflated.

√ the box if 'balloon'  
becomes smaller

About <b>12</b> hours infused		<input type="checkbox"/>
Date:  Time:		<input type="checkbox"/>
About <b>24</b> hours infused		<input type="checkbox"/>
Date:  Time:		<input type="checkbox"/>
About <b>36</b> hours infused		<input type="checkbox"/>
Date:  Time:		<input type="checkbox"/>

## Seek medical attention when you experienced the following:

1. There is a leak or burst inside the LV infusor.
2. Balloon reservoir did not reduce by half after 24 hours.
3. Infusion tubing is removed from the LV infusor.

4. LV infusor hit against a hard-surface and clear cracks are seen on the casing.
5. Port-A-Cath dressing/PICC is wet or loose. (Dressing site is wet may indicate gripper needle is dislodged)
6. Pain/Swelling felt over the Port-A-Cath site, could mean that the gripper needle (needle that is inserted during treatment) is displaced or extravasation.
7. If physical contact with the medication happens and do the following immediately:
  - Dab dry the affected area with clean cloth
  - Wash hands with soap and water
8. If LV infusor disconnected from the connection part of Gripper Needle/PICC:
  - Place the LV infusor into a plastic/ ziplock bag to prevent further harm, and bring along during medical visit (To clinic during office hour; To ED after office hour)

1. Call your following institution helplines during office hours (8.30am-5.30pm) otherwise please proceed to Emergency Department.
2. Please proceed to Emergency Department after office hours.

