

Sterile Fluid Handling & Administration

A. Drawing Fluids (Prepare Syringe)

Regular fluid bag

1. **Clean injection port** with alcohol; let air dry.
2. Attach **sterile 20–22G Drawing needle** to syringe (Do **not** touch the needle hub or syringe tip).
3. Insert into port → **Draw ONLY** (never push back).
4. Remove and recap the drawing needle safely.
5. Place capped syringe into labeled envelope:
 - a. Patient name and last name
 - b. Fluid type
 - c. Dose
6. Add a new **sterile Giving needle** (22–27G or 22–25G butterfly) to the envelope.
7. Place the envelope into the fluid warmer.

Fluid bag with reusable drawing spike

1. **Clean injection spike needleless port** with alcohol; let air dry.
2. Attach syringe to the needleless connector (Do **not** touch the needleless connector or syringe tip).
3. **Draw ONLY** (never push back).
4. Remove the syringe and attach a new **sterile Giving needle** (22–27G or 22–25G butterfly) keeping the packing around it.
5. Place capped syringe into labeled envelope:
 - a. Patient name and last name
 - b. Fluid type
 - c. Dose
6. Place the envelope into the fluid warmer.

B. Administering Fluids

Regular fluid bag

1. Remove the envelope from the warmer.
2. Swap needles (Do **not** touch the needle hubs or syringe tip):
 - a. Remove capped **drawing** needle.
 - b. Attach the **new giving** needle.
 - c. Return capped drawing needle to envelope.
3. Apply a small amount of alcohol on the patient site to clean (alcohol damped gauze for mammals).
4. Insert **giving** needle into patient.
5. **Pull back**:
 - a. Confirm **no blood**.
 - b. Confirm **no air bubble**.
6. Inject fluids carefully and slowly.
7. Dispose of **giving needle** in a sharps container.
8. Attach **previously used sterile drawing needle** to syringe. (Do **not** touch the needle hubs or syringe tip)

Fluid bag with reusable drawing spike

1. Remove the envelope from the warmer.
2. Apply a small amount of alcohol on the patient site to clean (alcohol damped gauze for mammals).
3. Insert **giving** needle into patient.
4. **Pull back**:
 - a. Confirm **no blood**.
 - b. Confirm **no air bubble**.
5. Inject fluids carefully and slowly.
6. Recap the drawing needle safely.

C. Prepare Next Dose

Regular fluid bag

1. Clean injection port with alcohol.
2. Draw fluids (never push back).
3. Recap drawing needle.
4. Place back the syringe and **new giving needle** in the envelope.
5. Return envelope to **warmer**.

Fluid bag with reusable drawing spike

1. **Clean injection spike needleless port** with alcohol; let air dry.
2. Dispose of **Giving needle** in a sharps container.
3. Attach syringe to the needleless connector (Do **not** touch the needleless connector or syringe tip).
4. **Draw ONLY** (never push back).
5. Remove the syringe and attach a new **sterile Giving needle** (22–27G or 22–25G butterfly) keeping the packing around it.
6. Place back capped syringe into labeled envelope.
7. Place the envelope back into the fluid warmer.

Key Points

- Maintain sterility at all times.
- Use the one-hand scoop method for recapping needles.
- Always confirm envelope labeling.
- Never return any fluid back to the bag.
- Always use a **new giving needle** for each administration.
- Do not soak animals in alcohol, instead use gauze damped in alcohol to clean mammals.