

SUBJECT: CARE OF PATIENTS WITH IV ACCESS	REFERENCE #8106
DEPARTMENT: REHABILITATION SERVICES	PAGE: 1 OF: 1
APPROVED BY:	EFFECTIVE: REVISED:

POLICY:

- Rehabilitation Services staff check all IV sites before and after rehabilitation services are provided to the patient.
- If a patient's IV becomes disconnected or falls out during treatment, the Rehabilitation Services staff member will notify the patient's unit care RN immediately.

PROCEDURE:

- Assess IV site and equipment for any obvious discrepancy report immediately.
- Avoid excessive motion at the IV site.
- Do not apply heat to the IV site.
- Always keep the IV fluid elevated above the heart level, if possible.
- If blood is observed in the line, do not attempt to clear it; call the nurse.
- If the IV has a piggy-back in place, be careful not to separate the lines and avoid contamination by touching the junction.