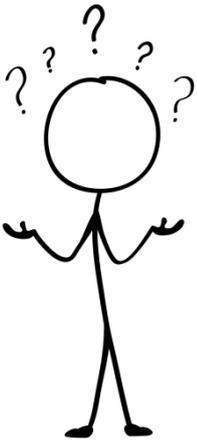


Think Twice about a PVC !



Does your patient need a PVC? All intravascular devices are associated with an increased risk of phlebitis, thrombosis, local infection and *S. aureus* bacteraemia. It is essential that you justify the need for your patient to have a PVC inserted using the DRIFT mnemonic.

- ✓ **Diagnostics** : Does the patient need the cannula for a diagnostic procedure e.g. CT scan
- ✓ **Resuscitation**: Is the patient at risk of cardiac or respiratory arrest?
- ✓ **Intravenous**: Does the patient require IV medication? Could these be switched to oral?
- ✓ **Fluids**: Does the patient require intravenous fluids? Could this be switched to oral fluids?
- ✓ **Transfusion**: Does the patient require a transfusion of blood products?

If your patient does not meet any of the above criteria please consider not inserting a PVC.

If your patient does meet the criteria for a PVC AND needs more than 3 days of treatment, consider an alternative type of line such as a Midline or PICC which are associated with lower risk of infection and more suited to being in place for longer periods of time.