

CVAA Advancing Best Practices: Integrating the Latest CVAA Guidelines to Improve Vascular Access Outcomes

Alana Aquino, MN, RN, CVAA(c) and Jocelyn Hill, MN, RN, CVAA(c), VA-BC™ in collaboration with CVAA leadership and the CVAA Guidelines Development Group



Background

- Inconsistent vascular access (VA) practices increase the risk of complications
 - Differences in clinical practice can negatively affect patient safety and overall outcomes
 - There is a clear need for standardized, evidence-based guidelines
 - First published under CINA in **1981** and **1999**
 - First published under CVAA in **2019**
- Newest edition released in 2024**

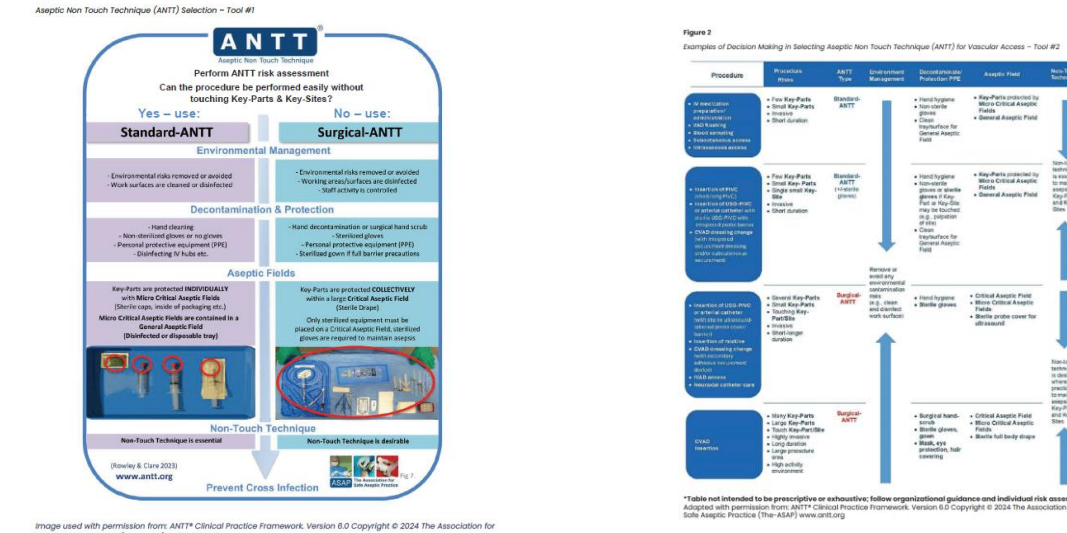


Methods

- CVAA Guidelines updated using GRADE approach along with ADAPTE & AGREE II tools
- Development involved a national working group made of up clinical experts and industry representatives
- Members represented diverse care environments, including acute care, community settings and both adult and pediatric populations
- Recommendations were developed through a combination of current evidence, expert consensus, resulting in high-quality and clinically relevant guidance

Hot Topics

ANTT® (Aseptic Non Touch Technique)



CVAD Lock Solutions

Lock Type	Indication	Contraindication
• Saline • Heparin • Citrate	• Used for non-anticoagulant activity. Preferred for patients with high risk of bleeding and need for CVC.	• Do not use for patients with high risk of bleeding and need for CVC.
• Citrate	• Used for patients with high risk of bleeding and need for CVC.	• Do not use for patients with high risk of bleeding and need for CVC.

Antineoplastic and Biologic Therapy

- Vessel selection
- Device selection
- Alternate care settings

42. ANTINEOPLASTIC THERAPY

Recommendations in the latest guideline update are based on the best available evidence. The Canadian Cancer Society's therapeutic guidelines for chemotherapy administration are the primary reference for chemotherapy administration. The Canadian Cancer Society's therapeutic guidelines for chemotherapy administration are the primary reference for chemotherapy administration. The Canadian Cancer Society's therapeutic guidelines for chemotherapy administration are the primary reference for chemotherapy administration.

43. BIOLOGIC THERAPY

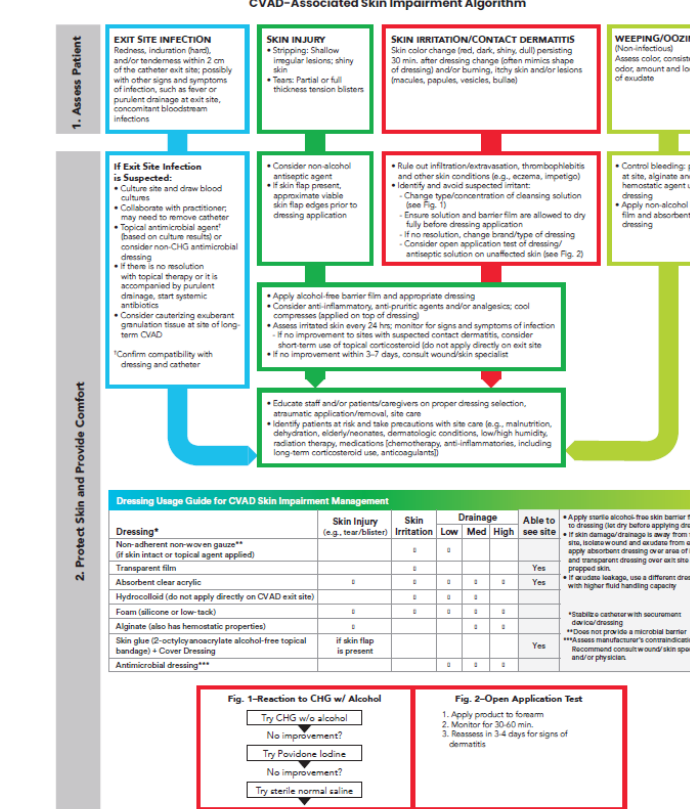
Biologic therapy includes, but is not limited to:

- Immunoglobulins (Ig) (IV and subcutaneous)
- Monoclonal antibodies (e.g., infliximab, rituximab)
- Colony-stimulating factors
- Interleukin inhibitors

USG-PIVC (Ultrasound-Guided PIV Catheter)

Vessel Depth	Catheter Length
0.25 cm	1.5 cm
0.35 cm	2.1 cm
0.5 cm	3 cm
0.75 cm	4.5 cm
1 cm	6 cm
1.25 cm	7.5 cm

CASI (Catheter-Associated Skin Injury)



Infiltration and Extravasation Management

Type of Medication	Complication	Outcome
• Chemotherapy • Antineoplastic • Biologic	• Infiltration • Extravasation	• Infiltration: mild to moderate leakage of a vesicant solution into surrounding tissue. • Extravasation: moderate to severe leakage of a vesicant solution into surrounding tissue.

Results

2024 Recommendations include:

- Strong emphasis on interprofessional collaboration
- Infection prevention strategies, including ANTT®
- Guidance on vessel and device selection, as well as insertion techniques
- Standardized maintenance protocols and complication management, including quick-reference tables
- Resources to support education and consistent practice implementation
- Guidance extending beyond acute care, including long-term care and other alternate care settings



Key Messages

- Provides practical tools and resources for VA Champions and all clinicians
- Supports safer, more effective vascular access care
- Encourages collaboration and shared decision-making
- Helps minimize complications, reduce costs, and decrease practice variation
- Includes a comprehensive Guidelines Implementation Toolkit



Citation:
Guidelines Development Group on behalf of Canadian Vascular Access Association. (2024). Canadian Vascular Access and Infusion Therapy Guidelines, 2nd Edition. Pappin Communications.



15-17 APRIL 2026
VALENCIA SPAIN