PICC-PORT REMOVAL: INDICATIONS, TECHNIQUE, AND OUTCOMES IN CLINICAL PRACTICE

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INTRODUCTION

The PICC PORT is a central venous catheter inserted through a peripheral vein (usually in the arm) and connected to a subcutaneous reservoir.

Its removal should be carried out in a planned and protocolized manner by the Intravenous Therapy nursing team.

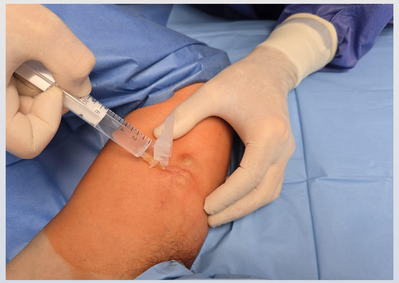
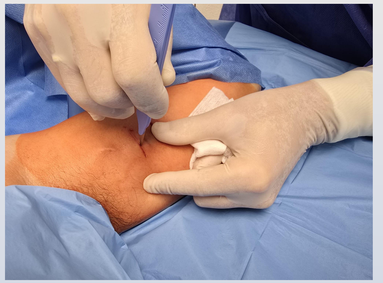
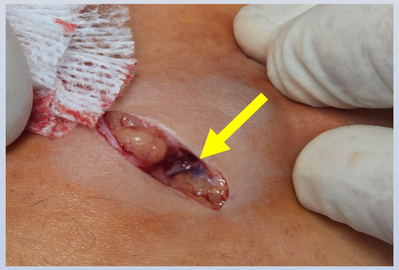
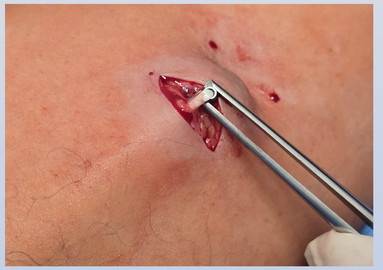
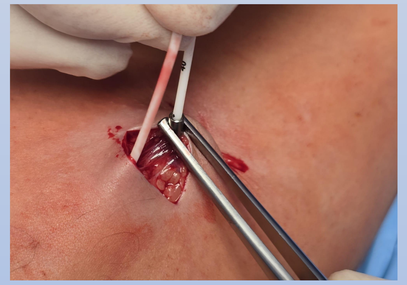
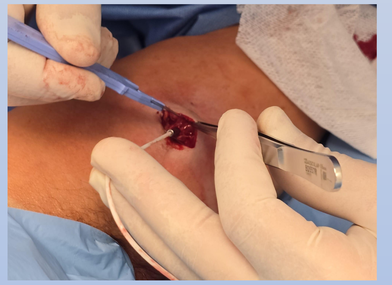
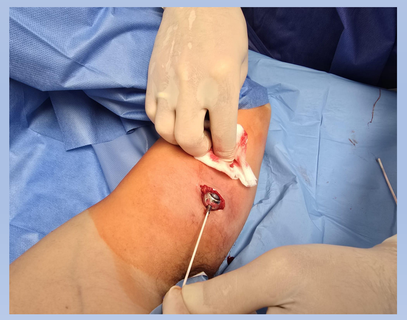
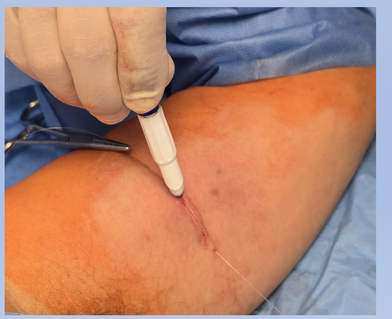
The objective of this clinical case is to describe the technique and outcomes of PICC-PORT removal in clinical practice.

METHODOLOGY / CLINICAL CASE

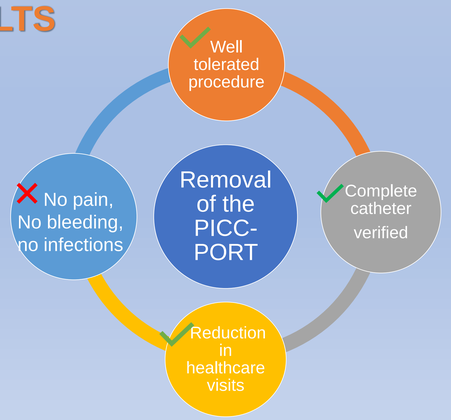
A 37-year-old female patient diagnosed with breast cancer required the implantation of a PICC PORT device for chemotherapy administration. After completing chemotherapy and following three follow-up evaluations showing no evidence of disease, the device was removed.

Procedure:

- First, local anesthesia was applied and an incision was made at the site where the safety lock is located (which connects, protects, and secures the catheter to the reservoir). It is situated just below the scar from its implantation, thus avoiding dissection of the catheter with the scalpel.
- The safety lock is grasped, the beginning of the catheter is identified, and extraction is started. Once the catheter has been removed, it helps to mobilize the reservoir and debride the fibrotic tissue.
- Complete catheter integrity was verified, hemostasis was achieved, and the wound was closed using intradermal suturing and cyanoacrylate.

RESULTS



CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ Procedure reduces risk of complications.
- ✓ Recommended when the need for its use is not anticipated
- ✓ Technique safely implemented by therapy intravenous nurses.
- ✓ Improves patient safety and optimizes quality of care.
- ✓ Between 2023 and 2025, 156 PICC PORTs were removed in the Intravenous Therapy Unit with no complications.