

# Translating Research Into Practice (TRIP)

## Peripheral IV policy adaptation

### What does the evidence say?

- Dry heat versus moist heat application decreases the likelihood of multiple IV insertion attempts and procedure time. Dry heat is comfortable, safe, and economical to use in an outpatient oncology setting. (Fink et al, 2009)
- Dry heat application may improve successful IV insertion rates, decrease costs, and improve patient satisfaction. (Fink et al, 2009)
- “Serious burns can result when a microwave oven is used to heat washcloths and towels. They can heat deeply, quickly and unevenly.” (Sofer, 2004, p1243)

### Change in practice?

#### (T Pad use for dry heat application- difficult IV starts)

- Most units have purchased their own T Pad unit for this purpose. Obtain the T pad (15X22”) from your par excellence supply
- Preheat the T pad. (approximately 10 minutes)
- Wrap T pad around patients extremity.
- Keep heat source on patient for approximately 7-10 minutes. Can set for temp of 38 or 42 degrees C depending on age, fragility of patients skin, or any pre existing condition. **NOTE:** adjust setting for the 20 minute cycling feature for safety purposes.
- When IV insertion completed, clean T pad unit after removing from patients room.

#### • NOT ACCEPTABLE



#### • ACCEPTABLE



<https://www.gaymar.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/CategoryDisplay?catalogId=10001&storeId=10053&categoryId=12403&parentCategoryId=11658&currentTopCategory=11663&langId=-1>

#### Reference:

- Fink, R.M., Hjort, E., Wenger, B., Cook, P.F., Cunningham, M., Orf, A., Pare, W. & Zwink, J. (2009) The Impact of Dry Versus Moist Heat on Peripheral IV Catheter Insertion in a Hematology-Oncology Outpatient Population, *Oncology Nursing Forum*, 36(4). E1-7
- Lenhardt, R., Seybold, T., Kimberger, O., Stoiser, B., & Sessler, D.I. (2002), Local warming and insertion of peripheral venous cannulas. *BMJ*, 325 (7361), 409-410.
- Sofer, A. (2004) Dangers of microwave- heated compresses. *Archives of Internal Medicine*, 164 (11), 1242-1243.

B. Wenger, R.Fink. September 2009

