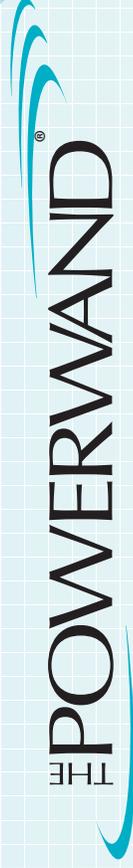


The POWERWAND® Extended-Dwell Catheter
Patient Information Guide



The POWERWAND® is
your “midline,”
power-injectable,
Intravenous Catheter



Manufactured by
accessscientific
San Diego, California

Essential Information:

Patient Name _____
 Patient Phone _____ Email _____
 Physician Name _____
 Physician Phone _____ Email _____
 IV Nurse Name _____
 IV Nurse Phone _____ Email _____
 Date POWERWAND® inserted _____ Location _____
 POWERWAND® size (Fr) _____ Lot Number _____
 Circumference of arm _____ Above AC _____ cm.

Date	Bandage Change	Extension Tubing Change	Injection Cap Change
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			

Preface

The POWERWAND® Safety Introducer is not a PICC and therefore should NOT be used for administration of infusates requiring central venous access.

Introduction

You have had a POWERWAND® placed in your arm vein, and secured with Catheter Stabilization Device. The purpose of this intravenous catheter (IV) is to administer fluids and medications, draw blood and inject contrast media for diagnostic studies. In other words, with The POWERWAND® in place, you can now receive intravenous therapy and have your blood drawn without repeated needle sticks. The POWERWAND® may have been slightly uncomfortable during its insertion, but it is very important for you to know that it should be comfortable and pain-free during usage. The needle used for insertion has been removed; all that remains in the vein is a 3.1 or 3.9 inch catheter made of ChronoFlex® C—which softens at body temperature.

CATHETER POWER-INJECTION SCHEDULE

Date	Contrast Media	Amount (cc's)/Rate of Injection	Max Pressure
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			

NOTE: The POWERWAND is FDA cleared for a maximum of 5 power-injection cycles.

For Customer Service call or contact:
 (858) 259-8333 or cservice@accessscientific.com



POWERWAND® is a registered trademark of Access Scientific, LLC.
 ChronoFlex® is a registered trademark of AdvanSource Biomaterials, Inc.
 BioPatch® is a registered trademark of J&J Ethicon, Inc.

Power-Injection through The POWERWAND®

The POWERWAND® is power-injectable “up to 300psi and 5ml/second, for up to 5 cycles.” This means it can be used 5 times for the injection of contrast media into the vein for purposes of diagnostic imaging, like a CT scan. The POWERWAND®’s Directions for Use are very explicit in directing clinicians how to perform power-injection. Clinicians must read those Directions for Use thoroughly prior to power injecting. As the patient, you should know the following:

- The Pressure Rated Extension Set tubing that comes with The POWERWAND® is power-injectable.
- All connections between catheter-tubing and tubing-tubing should be tightened before power-injection.
- If you are allergic to iodine or shellfish YOU MUST TELL the radiologist BEFORE the procedure is initiated.
- The fluid called “contrast media” MUST be warmed to body temperature before it is injected through The POWERWAND®.
- The POWERWAND® should be flushed (see above, Flushing) prior to and upon completion of power-injection, using the push/pause method.

Finally, and most important, if you feel any discomfort during the power-injection procedure YOU SHOULD report it at once.

Potential Catheter Problems

The POWERWAND® and Catheter Stabilization device should rest comfortably in and on your arm. Call your doctor or nurse immediately if you notice any of the following:

- Bleeding or drainage from or around the catheter or tubing.
- Redness or swelling anywhere near the catheter.
- Pain or discomfort at any time.
- Movement of the catheter in or out of the insertion site.
- Kinking or unusual bending of the catheter or tubing.
- Skin rash or discolor.
- Itching at or near the insertion site or Catheter Stabilization site.
- Any change or development that concerns you.

If you have any discomfort from The POWERWAND®, or if you feel any unusual symptoms at or near its insertion or securement site, you should immediately notify your clinician and insist on an evaluation.

Important WARNING

This is a patient information guide, intended to help you—the patient—become more comfortable with your IV catheter, its care and maintenance. This is not a POWERWAND® Direction for Use. Your doctor or nurse should refer to the Directions for Use included in The POWERWAND® packaging for complete instructions, warnings and precautions.

Catheter Care and Maintenance

Your POWERWAND® needs to be kept clean, secure and patent (unclogged). Below is some useful information on how to do this—information your nurses and doctors should know. If you see The POWERWAND® being managed differently, you should be comfortable asking your clinician about their approach.

KEEPING THE POWERWAND® CLEAN

1. The covering over the catheter, where it enters the skin, should be clean and dry at all times. If you see dirt, blood or fluid under or on the covering, notify your clinician or caretaker at once. A bandage/dressing change is in order.
2. Bandage/dressing changes should always be performed by a trained person using sterile technique. This technique prevents germs from contaminating the catheter and possibly entering the bloodstream.
3. Chlorhexidine gluconate (2% solution) should be used to clean the skin at the insertion site. This MUST be allowed to dry completely before any overlying dressing/bandage is placed. If it does not dry, a rash may appear under the dressing/bandage.
4. A BioPatch® should be placed around the catheter at the insertion site prior to covering. This is also important in preventing infection.

5. Finally, the insertion site—once chlorhexidine is dry and BioPatch® is in place—should be covered with either a transparent dressing or tape and sterile gauze. If a transparent dressing is used, the site does not need to be cleaned and rebandaged for 5-7 days, unless it becomes soiled or wet or loose. If tape and gauze are used, the site dressing should be changed at least every 48 hours.

Some special words of warning:

- No sharp instrument should be brought near The POWERWAND®.
- The catheter should not be allowed to piston in or out of the skin.
- The catheter should not be exposed to acetone or polyethylene glycol solutions. Over time, these could degrade the polyurethane in the catheter.

FLUSHING

1. Flushing means pushing sterile fluid through The POWERWAND® and High Pressure Rated extension set; this is done in order to keep the line from occluding due to either a blood clot or other kinds of build up.
2. The POWERWAND® can be flushed with sterile salt water, called Normal Saline. This should be done every 4-8 hours. The manner in which flushing is done is important. It is sometimes helpful to remind your nurse to do so.
3. Flushing The POWERWAND® should be done using the push/pause method: 2cc of normal saline is pushed through the line, then pause...then another 2cc of normal saline is pushed, then pause again. The total amount of the flush solution is up to your clinician, in accordance with their policy and procedures, but should not be less than 10cc. You should feel free to remind them of the push/pause method. It is important.
4. Other kinds of catheters called PICC lines require normal saline plus heparin—a medicine that discourages blood clotting. The POWERWAND® does not require “heparinized saline,” as it is called, but your clinician may still elect to use it.

Blood Sampling

1. Your POWERWAND® is cleared by the FDA for blood sampling, meaning: blood tests can be drawn through The POWERWAND®, instead of you having to be stuck in another vein with another needle.
2. The clinician should know the technique for sampling blood through an intravenous catheter. However, there are a couple tricks worth knowing in case the blood doesn't come out right away:
 - First, apply a light tourniquet as high up on the arm as possible.
 - Next, palm up and arm dangling.
 - Then, draw back gently on the blood sampling syringe (no further than the 0.5 cc mark).
 - Often, patience pays: wait 90 seconds while drawing back gently on the syringe. Often, the blood will flow easily after this short wait.
3. After blood sampling, The POWERWAND® should be flushed with normal saline (see, Flushing).

Catheter Stabilization Device Care and Maintenance

The Catheter Stabilization device that comes with The POWERWAND® is clinically proven to reduce complications and extend the life of the catheter. It also increases your comfort.

The Pressure Rated extension set is power injectable, which means it has the ability to withstand the pressure of power-injection of contrast media. The Catheter Stabilization device needs to be changed at least every 7 days, and sooner if it becomes loose, soiled, wet or dirty. The tubing that comes with the Pressure Rated extension set may need to be changed sooner, depending on what is infused through it. Clinicians or trained caregivers should follow the manufacturer's directions for use when changing the Catheter Stabilization device.