

## Your Intermate Pump for Pamidronate

You will be getting Pamidronate through a bottle called an Intermate pump. It is made of very hard plastic and looks like a baby bottle.

The Pamidronate is given slowly through the pump over 2 ½ to 5 hours.

Inside the bottle there is a balloon which holds the drug. The balloon gently pushes the drug down the tubing into your IV.

The small white section on the tubing is called a flow restrictor. It controls how fast the drug flows. Keep the flow restrictor taped against your skin at all times.



**Bottle empty**



**Bottle ½ full**



## **What is the best way to wear the pump?**

Keep the pump at the level of your PICC or Port device when sitting or lying down. When standing, the pump should not be lower than your waist.

Most people find it comfortable enough to tuck it under a pillow.

## **To remove the pump**

If you have a PICC or Port, a home care nurse removes the pump.

If your pump is attached to an IV needle in your arm, then you remove the pump and the IV together. To remove:

1. Grab each side of the clear dressing and stretch it. This loosens the dressing off the skin.
2. Carefully loosen and move the dressing away from where the needle goes into your skin.
3. Then, place a sterile gauze over the needle and gently pull the needle and pump out.
4. Apply pressure for 3 minutes and if you are on a blood thinner or taking aspirin, you may need to apply pressure longer.
5. Cover for 24 hours. Remove this dressing after 24 hours.

## **Call the Chemo Suite and if off hours call your home care nurse**

- if the balloon has emptied earlier than expected
- the balloon has not gotten smaller in the past 30 minutes
- the pump, tubing, dressing are damp or wet
- you can see blood in your IV tubing