AIDS- Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Blood borne pathogen transmitted by direct communication with bodily fluids.

Air Embolism (Emboli)- Air bubble in a blood vessel.

Ambulatory- Mobile, walking around.

Antibiotic- Antibacterial substances used for the treatment of infection.

Arterial Line- Catheter inserted into an artery. Usually performed by a doctor or specially trained nurse. May be used for withdrawal of blood, measuring arterial pressure, and IV Infusion. IV infusion must be done under pressure.

Artery (Arterial)- Vessels carrying oxygen rich blood from heart to body cells. Normal arterial pressure should range from 120mmHg to 210mmhg or about 2psi to 4psi.

Aseptic Technique- Precautionary method used in any clinical procedure where there is a possibility of introducing microorganisms or bacteria into the patient's body. All materials must be sterile when providing patient care.

Backflow- Generally refers to the reflux of blood into the catheter lumen upon disconnection of a luer or needle.

Betadine- Proprietary brand of povidone iodine commonly used to swab injection ports prior to accessing the port. A brown sticky substance known to leave residual and clog luers.

Blood Stream Infection (BSI)- Blood infection treated with antibiotics and often believed to be introduced through an IV catheter.

Blunt Cannula- A non-sharp plastic or metal needle. Also refers to a needleless system where the blunt cannula accesses a pre-slit injection port. (Baxter Interlink®, Abbott Lifesheild®, B.Braun Safeline®.

Bolus- Dosage of medication given via IV push either directly into a vein or through a port on the IV tubing. Usually administered within a short time period. IV piggybacks and syringe pushes may be considered bolus infusions.


Cannula- Needle, Narrow plastic tube used as a peripheral access line.

C.A.S.H.- Consolidation and Standardization of IV Products for Healthcare. An ICU Program that addresses a facility's need to reduce line item cost, reduction of SKUs and consolidated PO’s for IV tubing through the prime vendor.

Catheter- Hollow tube of variable size used for intravenous and body cavity access. Manufactured of many substances including soft and hard rubber, gum elastic, glass, silver, other metals and plastic materials.

Catheter Introducer- Needle device that is used to insert a catheter into the artery or vein. Catheter slides off the introducer needle and needle is disposed of.

Catheter Malposition (Migration)- Movement of a catheter which can cause trauma within the vein or artery and interrupt IV therapy. Well-secured IV sites, experienced IV insertion, and proper selection of IV sites will help prevent inadvertent catheter migration.

Catheter Related Sepsis (CRS)- Blood infection treated with antibiotics and believed to be introduced through the IV catheter.
Central Line- Catheter inserted in the subclavian vein where the tip of the catheter shall manifest in the superior vena cava.

Central Venous Catheter (CVC)- Catheter inserted in the subclavian vein where the tip of the catheter shall manifest in the superior vena cava.

Chemotherapy- Treatment of disease with chemical reagents that have a specific and toxic effect upon the disease-causing microorganism. Commonly used in cancer treatment.

Chlorhexadine- Decontaminate used to eliminate microorganisms.

Deadspace (residual volume)- The residual volume withheld in an IV device. Refers to what amount of fluid resides in a connector and is not delivered to the patient. Priming Volume – Residual Volume (deadspace) = Displacement

Displacement (negative/positive)- The volume of fluid which displaces or moves in a catheter when a luer is connected and disconnected. Displacement is equal to the volume of that accessing luer.

Distal- Farthest from the fluid (IV solution bag) source.

Distribution Fee- A percentage that a wholesaler adds to a contract price (GPO) usually 4-8%. This follows the Cost Plus model of pricing.

Drip Chamber- Clear, plastic tube (chamber) used as a reservoir and measuring device on IV lines just below the solution bag.

D5W- Dextrose 5% in water. Standard IV solution.

EDI- Electronic Data Interchange. A way to transmit data electronically, for example, a purchase order.

Extension Set- IV tubing used to provide additional length or access to the primary IV line.

Fibrin Sleeve- A buildup of platelets on the exterior of and indwelling catheter that can lead to vein thrombosis.

Fibrin Tail- A fibrin formation that hangs off the tip of the catheter like a tail and can sometimes cause and inability to aspirate from the catheter because it closes over the end.

Flashback- An observed blood return when inserting a catheter that indicates that venous access has been achieved.

French- Term used to describe external diameter of catheter. Numerical increase = size increase.

Gauge- Typically refers to the inside diameter of a needle or catheter. Used to describe administration capabilities such as flow rate. Numerical increase = size decrease.

Groshong® Catheter- Long-term, indwelling central venous catheter. Catheter tip has a proprietary valve or closed tip, which looks like a slit and prevents blood from entering the catheter while in the vein. Catheter labeled for use with saline only because the valve negates the need to heparinize.

Heparin- Drug used to reduce blood clotting.

Heparin Cap- Injection port.

Heparin Lock- The function of administering heparin into a catheter after use to reduce intraluminal clotting of blood. Used for intermittent therapies where the catheter is not being utilized for fluid delivery.
**IV Therapy Glossary**

**Hepatitis (HBV & HCV)** - Blood borne pathogens that attack and destroy liver function. Very common infectious disease found in the clinical setting. Spread by contact or inoculation with human blood and its products.


**Hub** - Female connection of an IV device or catheter into which the male luer is inserted.

**Huber Needle** - Needle bent at a right angle used to access implanted ports.

**Hyperalimentation** - Total parenteral nutrition.

**IDN** - Integrated Delivery Network (example: Kaiser Permanente, Scripps, Cleveland Clinic). This model allows for a healthcare system to address the entire continuum of care to give it a large advantage over the local and regional competition. This includes hospital, home care, home infusion, cancer care centers, same day surgery, physician practices, hospice, extended care and even their own health insurance.

**Implantable Port** - Subcutaneous (below the skin) injection port having no exterior components when not in use.

**Infiltration** - Process of substance passing out of a vein into the surrounding tissues.

**Infusate** - IV solution to be administered.

**Intravenous (Infusion) Therapy (IV)** - Therapy given to a patient via intravenously.

**Injection Cap** - Access point of an IV line where administration device is inserted.

**Intermittent Therapy** - Administration of IV therapy which occurs at intervals.

**Irrigation** - To push fluid through an IV line, usually with normal saline solution.

**IVH** - Intravenous hyperalimentation.

**IV Setup** - Equipment required to begin an IV infusion. All equipment including the catheter, infusate and tubing.

**GPO** - Group Purchasing Organization (example: MedAssets, Premier, Broadlane). Individual Hospitals, groups of hospitals and even IDNs will employ a GPO to negotiate lower pricing with manufacturers and help the hospital streamline supply chain issues. MedAssets takes it a step further by addressing revenue enhancement. The manufacturers will pay a percentage fee on goods sold to the GPO, engaging the GPO for purchasing leverage into member facilities. The hospital market has very high compliance among its members, while alternate site facilities are not very compliant. GPOs do not stock or sell product.

**JIT** - Just in Time. A distributor who keeps inventory for a healthcare facility and delivers on a daily or as-needed basis. They essentially serve as the warehouse for the institution.

**KVO** - Refers to a continuous IV infusion used to Keep Vein Open.

**LAV** - Luer activated valve. (B.Braun SafSite®)

**Lipids (Interlipids)** - Emulsified fat for IV infusion for nutritional therapy.

**Luer Lock** - Male luer with a fixed threaded skirt that is a secure locking feature for a luer slip.

**Luer Slip** - Conical male luer which when inserted into a female hub and turned a quarter turn clockwise achieves a friction connection.
Lumen- The internal space within catheter artery, vein, intestine, or tube.

Micron Filter- IV filter used to capture and eliminate air and contaminates in the IV system.

Microorganism- Bacteria found in the clinical setting known to infect the venous system.

Mural Thrombosis- A fibrin buildup on the wall of the vessel often caused by trauma during catheter insertion and can lead to vein thrombosis

Occlusion- Blocked artery, vein, IV catheter or tubing. Also refers to an occlusion alarm on a pump that sounds when the IV setup becomes blocked.

Oncology- Scientific and medical study of cancer.

Patent (patency)- Open, clear, not occluded. Generally referring to the IV catheter.

Pathogenesis- The development of a disease. The origin of a disease and the chain of events leading to that disease.

P.C.A.- Patient Controlled Analgesic (pain medication).

Peripheral Line- Any IV line that is placed on the periphery of the body. (ex. arms, legs, hand)

Peripherally Inserted Catheter (PIC)- Catheter that is placed on the periphery of the body. (ex. hand and foot)

Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC)- Catheter that is placed on the periphery of the body, generally arm yet tip of the catheter is positioned in the superior vena cava.

Phlebitis- Inflamed, irritated vein.

Piggyback- Accessing a primary IV line at a secondary port (Y-site).

Primary Line- Main IV tubing. Secondary lines will be piggybacked into the main line.

Prime Vendor- The vendor a facility tries to consolidate most of their purchases through. This ultimately reduces costs to the facility through reduction of purchase orders and other administrative functions. Average cost of a PO is $74-$125. This will generally be one of the aforementioned wholesalers.

Priming- The elimination of air in the IV setup by infusing solution prior to IV administration.

PRN Adapter- Injection port.

Protocol- Guidelines written to prescribe safe and effective clinical practice. Intended to be followed by all clinical personnel and set as a benchmark for what happens when.

Proximal- Nearest to the head or source.

Residual Volume- The volume withheld in an IV device. Refers to what amount of fluid resides in a connector and is not delivered to the patient. Priming Volume – Residual Volume (deadspace) = Displacement

Saline- Solution of salt and water Used as a carrier for all IV drugs and hydration. Normal saline is a 0.9% solution with The same osmotic pressure as that of blood.

SASH- Saline flush, Antibiotic, Saline flush, Heparin.

Secondary Line- IV line used to access a main/primary line at a secondary port (Y-site).

SKU- A number unique to an item at each facility. Reducing the number of SKUs will lower cost.
Seldinger (Technique)- Over the wire insertion method used for catheter insertion.

Specialty Distributor- A distributor who works primarily with the clinician or end user. They introduce new technology, prospect and in-service our products. They work on higher margins (25-40%).

Swan-Ganz® Catheter- Catheter with two lumens and a balloon. Floated into the heart and lungs for measurement of cardiovascular pressures.

Total Delivered Cost- There are many facets of cost to a healthcare facility besides the cost of our product. 1) Line Item Cost: This is the actual cost of the product. 2) Transportation: Delivery of Goods. 3) Inventory: Cost to keep goods on the shelf. 4) Transaction: Cost to place order (fax, phone, EDI). 5) Accounting: Price confirmation, accounts payable, terms.

Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN)- IV fluids used for nutritional enhancement.

Thrombosis- A build up of blood fibrin and platelets in the circulatory system which can lead to embolism, or clotting.

Venipuncture- The act of inserting a needle or catheter into a vein

Venous Access- Insertion of a cannula into a vein, allowing entrance to the circulatory system to infuse medication, draw blood, or infuse solutions.

Wholesaler- A distributor whose specialty is efficiency is in moving boxes, often serving as a JIT for the facility. They will work on low margins (3-5%) and work exclusively with purchasing. Examples are Cardinal, Owens and Minor, McKesson. They provide value in facilities where they are a prime vendor.

Y Site- Injection port that branches off primary lines. Used for piggybacking medications into primary set.