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June 21, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

PICC lines for Inpatients & Nurse-led Outpatient Clinic starting May 14, 2018

Bluewater Health will be launching a service to provide peripherally inserted central catheter (PICC) lines. Some Physicians began offering the service to inpatients in March on a rotating call basis. The hospital will launch a nurse-led outpatient clinic for PICC lines the week of May 14, 2018. It will operate Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Criteria for PICC lines are:

- Long-term intravenous treatment greater than one week
- Poor peripheral venous access
- Critically ill requiring multi-lumen access
- Chemotherapy
- Prolonged antibiotic therapy greater than one week
- Narcotic pump
- Requires frequent venous access for infusion or blood products
- Other _____

Referrals will be accepted as early as May 14 for the launch week. Please give the PICC Benefits and Risk Handout to the patient for their review and request that they bring it with them, signed, to their appointment. Please fax the referral form (both forms attached) to the Bluewater Health Pre-Admission Clinic at 519-464-4509. The Pre-Admission Clinic staff will call the patient with an appointment date and time. Upon arrival for the appointment, patients will register at Ambulatory Care, and then be directed to the PICC Clinic on Level 2, Norman Building. Please be aware the referring physician is responsible for consent, orders and follow-up.

Plans are being finalized for a similar service at the Charlotte Eleanor Englehart Hospital (CEEH) of Bluewater Health in Petrolia.

We are proud to contribute in this way to our shared goal of quality care for Sarnia-Lambton residents, close to home.

Sincerely,

Mike Haddad, MD, MSc, FRCSC
Chief of Professional Staff