

Lack of clinician competency in CVAD care and maintenance may compromise patient care and safety



"As a method of public protection to ensure patient safety, the clinician is competent in...vascular access device (VAD)...management within her or his scope of practice."¹

—INS Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice 2016, page S18, standard 5.1



Periodic assessment for knowledge of and adherence to guidelines should occur for all infusion staff.²

—CDC 2011 Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections, page 9

Use a standardized approach to clinician competency assessment and validation

1. Validate competencies

"Validate clinician competency by documenting the knowledge, skills, behaviors, and ability to perform the assigned job."¹

—INS Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice 2016, page S18, standard 5, practice criterion C

2. Assess needs and education

"Perform a gap analysis to identify education and/or performance needs."¹

—INS Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice 2016, page S19, standard 5, practice criterion E

3. Implement competency checks

"Competency assessment and validation is performed initially and on an ongoing basis."¹

"Competency validation is documented in accordance with organizational policy."¹

—INS Infusion Therapy Standards of Practice 2016, page S18, standards 5.3 & 5.4

Formalize and document the clinician's ability to properly assess and maintain CVADs



Staff training and education improves access device competency and should be documented in the nurse's personnel record.³

—ONS Access Device Standards 2017, page 153, section II

Include the following in a competency form or checklist¹:

- The competency statement
- Method of demonstrating performance
- Criteria for achieving success
- Signature of assessor

Genentech offers tools and educational resources to help clinicians establish and maintain competency in CVAD care

- CVAD Survey and Quality Tracker tools for clinicians to assess and identify any gaps in CVAD care and education
- The Take Action Template provides a 3-step action plan to help clinicians build CVAD competency and quality care in their hospitals

Contact your Genentech clinical specialist to learn about additional education and training opportunities through our live inservices and Nurse Trainer Program or online through HealthStream.

Please call Genentech Customer Service at 1-800-551-2231 to locate your Genentech clinical specialist.

References: **1.** Infusion Nurses Society. Infusion therapy standards of practice. *J Infus Nurs.* 2016;39(suppl 1). **2.** O'Grady NP, Alexander M, Burns LA, et al; the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC). Guidelines for the prevention of intravascular catheter-related infections. *Clin Infect Dis.* 2011;52(9):e162-e193. **3.** Camp-Sorrell D, ed. *Access Device Standards of Practice for Oncology Nursing*. 4th ed. Pittsburgh, PA: Oncology Nursing Society; 2017:1-85.