

Preventing adverse events during paediatric cancer treatment: A multi-site hybrid randomised controlled trial of catheter lock solutions (The CLOCK trial)

ACTRN12622000499785

Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	University of Queensland
Enrollment	720 participants

Plain Language Summary

Children receiving treatment for cancer often have a central line — a special tube inserted into a major blood vessel to deliver chemotherapy, blood products, and other medicines without the need for repeated needle sticks. While central lines are essential, they can also cause serious problems including bloodstream infections, blood clots, and blockages. Across Australia, hundreds of children experience these complications every year.

When a central line is not being used, it is filled with a locking solution to keep it functioning. This study compares three different locking solutions: normal saline (salt water, the current standard), heparinised saline (saline with a blood-thinning agent), and KiteLock (a solution that may prevent both infection and blockage). Participants are randomly assigned to one of the three options, and their outcomes are monitored over up to three months.

Your child may be eligible if they are under 18 years old, have been diagnosed with a cancer or blood cancer, and currently have a central line in place. Children who are at the end-of-life stage of care, have a pre-existing bleeding disorder unrelated to their cancer, or have a known allergy to heparin or the T-EDTA ingredient in KiteLock are not eligible.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (1)

- Children (<18 years) with an oncological or malignant haematological condition who have a CVAD in situ (including peripherally inserted central catheters [PICCs], tunnelled (cuffed or non-cuffed) [e.g. Hickman®; Becton Dickinson, US] and totally implanted [e.g. PORT-A-CATH®; Smith Medical, US] will be eligible for inclusion.

Exclusion (3)

- End-of-life pathway/measures at recruitment
- Pre-existing coagulopathic condition not related to current diagnosis or treatment (e.g. Haemophilia A and B or other factor deficiency; Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP); Von Willebrand's disease)
- Known allergy to heparin or T-EDTA

Locations (7 total)

Queensland Children's Hospital - South Brisbane, NSW,QLD,VIC, Australia
Sydney Children's Hospital - Randwick, NSW,QLD,VIC, Australia
The Royal Childrens Hospital - Parkville, NSW,QLD,VIC, Australia
... and 4 more locations

<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12622000499785>

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