

# Infusion Center Welcome

**Infusion Appointment Scheduling:** 703.635.7324 - Option #4

**Gastroenterology Appointment Scheduling:** 703.876.2788

**Gastroenterology Nurse Line:** 703.635.7324 - Option #2

[psvcare.org](http://psvcare.org)



Welcome to the Infusion Center at Pediatric Specialists of Virginia (PSV). Our team of specially trained certified nurses blend advanced medical technology with a compassionate approach to ensure a positive experience for every patient.

Our skilled physicians and infusion specialists stay up-to-date on the latest treatments, using advanced technologies to alleviate symptoms and minimize potential side effects associated with treatment. We look forward to providing you with exceptional care at PSV!

## Who is part of my child's care team during their treatment at PSV's Infusion Center?

*Your child's clinical care team consists of a Doctor of the Day, Medical Assistants, and Registered Nurses.*

### Pediatric Gastroenterologist Doctor of the Day

- A doctor from PSV's Gastroenterology team will be onsite every day.
- This may or may not be your child's regular doctor.
- The doctor is available to address any emergency situations.

### Pediatric Medical Assistants and Registered Nurses

*Your child's clinical care team will:*

- Welcome and orient you and your child to PSV's Infusion Center upon your first visit.
- Explain the infusion process in a clear and concise manner that your child will understand.
- Measure and record your child's height and weight without shoes or outerwear.
- Take your child's vital signs, recording their temperature, blood pressure, and heart rate.
- Place and remove your child's IV.
- Give pre-medication such as allergy medication and Tylenol if not taken at home prior to the appointment, helping to reduce the risk of any side effects.
- Collect blood for any ordered lab work.
- Prepare your child's medication in the medication room located at the back of the Infusion Center.
- Communicate your child's updated plan of care and assist in scheduling future infusion appointments.
- Provide information and resources for next steps.
- Monitor your child throughout their infusion treatment.



## How will my child receive their infusion?

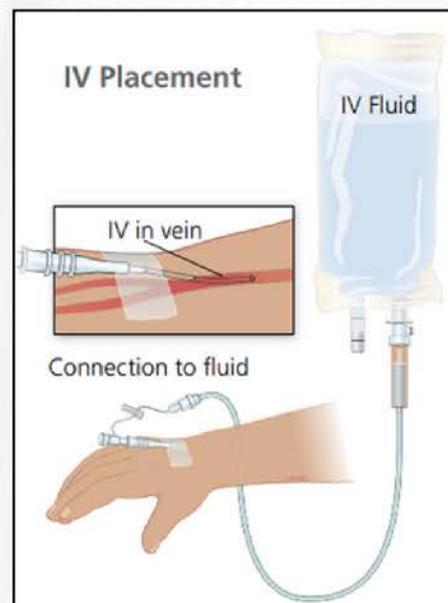
An IV or intravenous catheter is used to administer your child's infusion medicine. It is a tiny flexible tube inserted into a vein.

## How will my child receive an IV?

Depending upon your child, they may receive the IV in their hand or arm. The person who places the IV will decide the best location for your child based on their veins. You might hear the nurse call this "placing the IV."

### Helpful Information Regarding IV Placement

- We advise that your child hydrate well the day before the appointment, and drink at least **8-12 ounces** of fluid right before the appointment to help the vein be ready for the IV placement. Avoid coffee, tea, salt, and other dehydrating foods and beverages.
- Your child should wear a short-sleeve shirt or a shirt with sleeves easily rolled for easier IV placement. Dress in layers for comfort.
- At the appointment, your child will be given a warm glove to put on the IV site to help the nurse find the best vein.
- The nurse will then put a stretchy band (tourniquet) around your child's arm.
- The nurse will then use a needle to insert the IV. Once the IV is in place, only a flexible plastic tube stays in the vein.
- The nurse will put a clear dressing over the IV entry site.
- The nurse may also use a brace to help your child hold their arm straight and keep the IV in place during the infusion.



## What happens during an infusion?

- Your child will be monitored by their clinical team for any infusion reactions throughout treatment.
- The team will take your child's vital signs every 30 minutes.
- Your child's IV will be removed before discharge.

## What else do I need to know?

- If your child has or recently had a fever, contact PSV's Infusion Center to reschedule or confirm your infusion appointment is safe to proceed.
- We will schedule 1-2 infusions in advance, depending on your child's frequency of infusions and the schedule availability. You may be responsible for scheduling your child's next infusion.
- Please notify your child's clinical team if you or your child have any concerns.
- A parent/guardian must accompany patients under the age of 18 during their treatment.
- Up to 2 adults are permitted in the Infusion Center (at least one parent/guardian required).
- Only adults are permitted in PSV's Infusion Center.
- No sick visitors are allowed in the Infusion Center. A sick visitor is anyone with fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- PSV's Infusion Center offers snacks such as crackers, cookies, juice, water, and coffee for parents. There is no cafeteria on site. You are permitted to bring snacks from home.

## When can my child return home?

- The nurse will do a final check of your child's vital signs and the IV will be removed at the end of the infusion.
- Your nurse will review the signs and symptoms of infusion reactions and other important instructions that you need to know when you are home with your child.
- The entire process typically takes 2 to 3 hours. Please plan accordingly.