Focus on caring for a patient with a peripheral venous catheter

1. **Indication:** Ensure that a peripheral venous catheter is indicated. Remove the catheter when no longer necessary/clinically indicated.

2. **Insertion/maintenance/removal**
   2.1 Prepare clean skin with an antiseptic (70% alcohol, tincture of iodine, an iodophor, or alcohol-based 2% chlorhexidine gluconate) before catheter insertion.
   2.2 Wear clean, non-sterile gloves and apply an aseptic procedure (with non-touch technique) for catheter insertion, removal, and blood sampling.
   2.3 Replace any dry gauze-type dressings every 2 days.
   2.4 Consider scheduled catheter change every 96 hours.
   2.5 Change tubing used to administer blood, blood products, chemotherapy, and fat emulsions within 24 hours of infusion start. Consider changing all other tubing every 96 hours.

3. **Monitoring:** Record time and date of catheter insertion, removal and dressing change, and condition (visual appearance) of catheter site every day.

   Immediately after any task that could involve body fluid exposure, such as:
   3a. Inserting or removing the catheter
   3b. Drawing blood

   Immediately before any manipulation of the catheter and the associated intravenous medication administration system, such as:
   2a. Catheter insertion or removal (before putting on clean, non-sterile gloves), dressing change, drawing blood, or before preparing associated equipment for these procedures
   2b. Accessing (opening) the administration set and infusion system
   2c. Preparing medications for infusion into the catheter

**Key additional considerations for peripheral intravenous catheters**

1. **Indication:** Ensure that a peripheral venous catheter is indicated. Remove the catheter when no longer necessary/clinically indicated.

2. **Insertion/maintenance/removal**
   2.1 Prepare clean skin with an antiseptic (70% alcohol, tincture of iodine, an iodophor, or alcohol-based 2% chlorhexidine gluconate) before catheter insertion.
   2.2 Wear clean, non-sterile gloves and apply an aseptic procedure (with non-touch technique) for catheter insertion, removal, and blood sampling.

2.3 Replace any dry gauze-type dressings every 2 days.
2.4 Consider scheduled catheter change every 96 hours.
2.5 Change tubing used to administer blood, blood products, chemotherapy, and fat emulsions within 24 hours of infusion start. Consider changing all other tubing every 96 hours.

3. **Monitoring:** Record time and date of catheter insertion, removal and dressing change, and condition (visual appearance) of catheter site every day.

   Immediately after any task that could involve body fluid exposure, such as:
   3a. Inserting or removing the catheter
   3b. Drawing blood

   Immediately before any manipulation of the catheter and the associated intravenous medication administration system, such as:
   2a. Catheter insertion or removal (before putting on clean, non-sterile gloves), dressing change, drawing blood, or before preparing associated equipment for these procedures
   2b. Accessing (opening) the administration set and infusion system
   2c. Preparing medications for infusion into the catheter