



EVDs – Quick Guide

An EVD is an extraventricular drain which is inserted under local +/- general anaesthetic by the neurosurgical (Neuro Surgical) consultant/registrar in theatre. It sits in one of the 4 ventricles and provides pressure relief by letting CSF (cerebrospinal fluid) drain into a closed, sterile burette and drainage bag. EVDs are commonly inserted in patients who have an increase in intracranial pressure due to hydrocephalus (a build-up of CSF in the ventricles). These patients include those with SAH, TBI, infection, tumours and congenital CSF drainage problems.

The EVD itself is a temporary measure to provide time until the underlying cause of hydrocephalus has been/can be resolved.

All EVDs must be

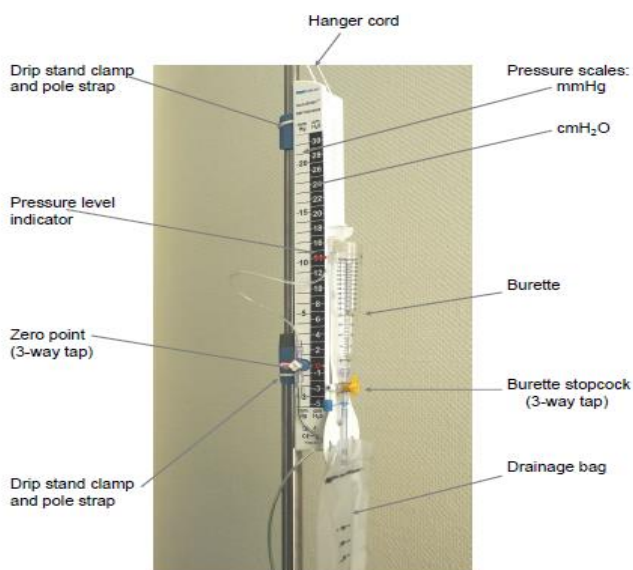
- Zeroed at appropriate level (tragus of ear when supine, bridge of nose when side-lying) to avoid under/over drainage
- Set at the prescribed level (e.g. 10cmH₂O) and only moved if advised by neurosurgical registrar/consultant
- Clamped when moving the patient in bed/transferring out to chair then re-levelled and unclamped once procedure completed
- Output monitored/recorded hourly (unless otherwise stated by neurosurgeon aim 1-20ml/hr) – if no drainage or oscillation seen to notify NS registrar **immediately**
- Clamped at both points on the drainage set when transferring to CT/MRI/ward – only Unclamp when back in bed space with drain at prescribed level
- Labelled clearly to differentiate drainage tubing from CVC line
- Raised 10-20cmH₂O when performing chest physio or if patient coughing ++ - return to Prescribed level once procedure complete





IT Vancomycin:

- All patients with EVDs in situ must be given a daily prophylactic Vancomycin dose intrathecally through the EVD – this must be done by the **NS SHO** as an aseptic procedure (they will know this needs to be done but may need bleeping to remind them)
- IT Vancomycin doses are kept in the unit fridge and are in pre-made up syringes – liaise with pharmacy for supplies of these
- If the EVD is an orange tube, this is a Bactiseal EVD which is antimicrobial-impregnated and does not require daily IT Vancomycin. If unsure – liaise with **NS**
- To change drainage bag or to take CSF sample it **MUST** be an aseptic procedure – **DO NOT EMPTY THE BAG OR TAKE SAMPLES UNLESS TRAINED TO DO SO!**



The Integra™ Accudrain™

