Patient Information Leaflet

Study title: Effectiveness of ultrasound-guided peripheral intravenous catheter (EUPIC) insertion by oncology nurses versus traditional (touch and feel) approaches. A Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)

Principal investigator's name: Caitriona Duggan

Principal investigator's title: PhD candidate, School of Nursing and Midwifery. University of Galway

The telephone number of the principal investigator: 090 96 48398

The principal investigator's name: Dr. Peter J. Carr.

Principal investigator's title: Associate Professor, School of Nursing and Midwifery. University of Galway

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Co-investigator's name & Title	Ms Onagh O' Grady. Public and Patient Involvement representative.

Data Controller's/joint Controller's Identity:	Health Service Executive
Data Controller's/joint Controller's Contact Details:	091 524222
Data Protection Officer's Identity:	Mr Liam Quirke
Data Protection Officer's Contact Details:	DPO @HSE west **0**91 524222

Introduction

You are invited to take part in a research study at **Portiuncula University Hospital, Letterkenny General Hospital, or Galway University Hospital**. The study is led by **Caitríona Duggan**, supervised by **Dr. Peter Carr**.

Before deciding, please:

✓ Read this information carefully.

✓ Take your time—you do not have to decide right away.

✓ Discuss it with family, friends, or your doctor if you wish.

Your participation is **voluntary**. If you choose not to take part, it **will not affect** your medical care. You can also **withdraw at any time** without giving a reason.

Why is this study being done?

This study compares two ways of inserting a **drip (IV cannula)**:

1. **Traditional method** (using touch and sight).
2. **Ultrasound-guided method** (using a small scanning device).

Many patients need a drip for cancer treatment, but sometimes it takes multiple tries, which can be uncomfortable. Research suggests ultrasound may help **insert the drip correctly on the first try**, especially for people with **hard-to-find veins**. However, more evidence is needed for cancer patients.

This study will help us see if ultrasound improves the process and leads to better care.

Who is organising and funding this study?

The study is being conducted by nurse researchers across the HSE West and North West Region and is supported by funding from the Irish Cancer Society, the National Cancer Control programme, and the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director.

Why am I being asked to take part?

You may join if:

✓ You are **over 18 years old**.

✓ You need a **drip for cancer treatment**.

✓ You have **difficult veins** (hard to insert a drip).

How will the study be carried out?

- The study will run for **6 months in 2025** at **Portiuncula, Letterkenny, and Galway University Hospitals**.
- If you agree, you will be **randomly assigned** to either:
  - The **traditional method** (no ultrasound).
  - The **ultrasound-guided method**.
- A member of the research team will record details about the drip insertion (e.g., number of attempts, location, time taken).

What will happen to me if I agree to take part?

Following consent, the nurse will record the following data.

Question
• What date was this procedure carried out?
• What was the rationale for the patient requiring an IV cannula? (2 - 3 word short answer appropriate)
• Type of intervention Traditional/ Ultrasound
• Was there first-time insertion success Yes/No
• Time from request to insertion
• How many attempts did it take to perform this procedure successfully?
• Where on the patient's anatomy was the procedure performed?
• Why was this area/vein selected?

• Was there an unplanned removal of PIVC before completion of systemic anti-cancer treatment? Yes/ No
• Device dwell time (From time of insertion to removal)
• Was a referral made for an alternative vascular access device?

- Your medical records will be kept private.
- Your name will not be disclosed.

What are the benefits?

- There are **no direct benefits** for you, but the study may help **improve future care** for patients.
- We will collect data to understand common problems and find ways to reduce them.

What are the risks?

- There are **no extra risks**—you will receive the same standard care.

What if something goes wrong when I am taking part in this study?

If you have any concerns, contact:

- The **Patient Liaison Nurse** at Galway University Hospital (**091 524222**).
- The **Ethics Committee**.

Is the study confidential?

- **Yes.** Your data will be **anonymous** (no name attached).
- You will get a **study ID number**, and only the research team can access your details.
- All data is stored securely and follows **GDPR** (data protection) rules.
- Results will be shared in medical journals/conferences **without identifying you**.

Your rights – data protection

You can:

✓ Withdraw at any time (your care will not be affected).

✓ Ask for a copy of your data.

✓ Request corrections or deletion (unless the study is near completion).

✓ Complain to the Data Protection Commissioner if needed.

Will my data be used in future research?

We may keep data for up to 7 years for ethical research. Any future studies will follow strict privacy rules.

Where can I get further information?

If you have questions or want to opt out, contact:

- Your **oncology nurse** or the **main researcher**.
- The **Data Protection Officer** (Email: **DPO@HSEwest**, Phone: **091 524222**).

Your decision to take part (or not) will not affect your treatment.

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