



Yorkshire  
& Humber  
AHSN

Transforming Lives  
Through Innovation



# SecurAcath case study

**Working with trusts in the region to implement SecurAcath: a device to secure catheters without requiring sutures or adhesives.**

## **Overview**

**The Yorkshire & Humber AHSN has worked with trusts in the region to support the spread and adoption of SecurAcath – a device that helps secure catheter placement.**

SecurAcath is one of the four innovative products under the 2020/21 Medtech Funding Mandate – a national priority for NHS commissioners that launched in April 2021 to spread innovations that have previously been supported by the Innovation Technology Tariff /Innovation Technology Payment ITP.

## **The challenge**

Patients may experience several complications when peripherally inserted central catheters (PICC) are moved or dislodged at the insertion site. During weekly routine dressing changes, the adhesive dressing is removed, leaving the catheter unsecured and at risk of movement and migration, which can lead to these adverse patient impacts:

- Interruptions or delays in therapy
- Increased length of hospital stays or extended treatment plan
- Increased re-admissions to hospital
- Repeat procedures
- Damaged vessels from catheter movement, positioning or re-catheterisation
- Medical adhesive related skin injury (MARSI)
- Complications including catheter occlusion, phlebitis, thrombosis and infection.

The cost of replacing an adhesive securement on a weekly basis is around £5. Replacement costs of catheters can range from £150 to £1,500. Additional costs to consider are extending treatments and the management on any complications.

## **The solution**

Compared to adhesive securement devices, SecurAcath provides continuous securement from catheter placement and never needs to be changed. The concept for SecurAcath came from an interventional radiologist at the University of Minnesota. He encountered patients with catheter securement issues on a daily basis and identified unmet needs for a robust catheter securement device that could overcome the challenges that adhesive devices and sutures caused.

SecurAcath does not require sutures or adhesives. It secures at the insertion site using small, flexible securement feet placed in the subcutaneous tissue below the dermis. This allows for improved site cleaning, less catheter manipulation and eliminates the risk of accidental dislodgement or migration during routine dressing

changes - it is therefore better for the patient. Because SecurAcath lasts the life of the line, this lowers the total cost of patient care by dramatically reducing the complications related to routine adhesive securement changes and sutures.

## About the MedTech Funding Mandate (MTFM)

In its first year, the MedTech Funding Mandate has supported four NICE-approved, cost-saving technologies. Support for these technologies is continuing in 2022/23 (supported technologies are reviewed annually to ensure that they meet the policy criteria).

To be considered for the MTFM 2022/23 policy, technologies needed to be:

- Effective: demonstrated through positive NICE Medical Technology Guidance (MTG) or Diagnostic Guidance (DG), published by 30 June 2021.
- Cost-saving within three years of implementation: as demonstrated by NICE modelling and published in a NICE resource impact template.
- Affordable to the NHS: the NICE budget impact analysis total costs should not exceed £20 million in any of the first three years.

This Mandate ensures that commissioners listen to the needs and requirements of their clinicians and make the necessary arrangements for funding. SecurAcath was selected to be on the MTFM in 2021/22 making it part of the first wave of innovations managed in this way.

## How we have helped



Yorkshire & Humber AHSN have seen success in the spread and adoption of SecurAcath, and across the region, we have seen all 13 hospitals use 26,370 units of the innovation, thereby reducing the need for catheters to be replaced and saving the NHS a significant amount of time and money.



The AHSN operates as an honest broker and a buffer between the suppliers and the trusts/clinicians. We facilitate relationships, help with business cases and raise awareness that the products are available, cost saving and better for patients.

***"We are really pleased to have all the hospitals within the region using SecurAcath, and we will continue to work with them to help Trusts and patients get the maximum benefit from this technology".***

***Harriet Smith, Programme Manager from Yorkshire & Humber AHSN***

## Impact

Modelling shows savings of £9.95 per patient. Cost savings result from shorter maintenance times and lessens the need for device replacement when using SecurAcath. Annual savings across the NHS in England from using the innovation are estimated to be a minimum of £4.2 million based on data reviewed by the NICE Advisory Committee. NICE estimated that 128,000 patients were eligible for the SecurAcath each year in England.

One of the trusts to embrace this new technology, and to monitor the success of its implementation is Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust.



During 2021-2022, the staff at the Sir Robert Ogden Macmillan Centre placed 114 peripherally inserted central catheters (PICC), and in no cases did the patient experience any line migration.





Yorkshire  
& Humber  
**AHSN**

On the two occasions where the technology was not used, both patients needed further interventions, and their lines had to be removed and replaced.

Both patients and staff are really pleased with the product, with one patient saying:

***"I have been really impressed by how the PICC line and SecurAcath has transformed my experience as nurses always had problems getting a cannula in.***

***I find it very comfortable to the point that I forget I have it and occasionally catch it. I have never had any problems with it moving position, my skin has been sore at times, caused by my treatment but the SecurAcath has never made my skin sore. I am really glad I have it."***

**Metastatic bowel cancer patient on fortnightly treatment that requires a PICC line.**

Staff at Harrogate are also keen to continue with use of the product.

## 'Gives us confidence'

**"Since gaining my competency in PICC line insertion, I regularly use the SecurAcath device and have always found them easy to insert, causing minimal discomfort to the patient.**

**The removal of the SecurAcath device once the PICC line is no longer required, is also straightforward, and can be done on our day unit. They also give colleagues the confidence to change the PICC line dressing with ease as the risk of accidentally pulling the line on removal of the old dressing is reduced."**

***Practitioner comment - Lindsey Beaumont SACT Sister***

