






## Checklist: Changing an IV Solution Bag

*Disclaimer: Always review and follow your hospital policy regarding this specific skill.*

Steps	Additional Information
<p>1. Verify and select correct IV solution bag and compare to the medication administration record (MAR) or physician orders.</p>	<p>IV solutions are considered a medication and must be checked using the SEVEN RIGHTS x 3, as per agency policy.</p>  <p>Sterile IV solution</p>
<p>2. Introduce yourself, identify patient, and explain procedure.</p>	<p>Proper identification of a patient prevents medication errors. Explaining the procedure provides an opportunity for the patient to ask questions.</p>
<p>3. Perform hand hygiene.</p>	<p>Hand hygiene prevents the transmission of microorganisms.</p>
<p>4. Remove outer plastic packaging and squeeze bag to test for leaks and expiration</p>	<p>This ensures the correct IV solution is used.</p>

<p>date. Assess for precipitates or cloudiness. Hang new IV solution on IV pole.</p>	 <p>Remove IV solution from packaging</p>
<p>5. Pause the EID or close the roller clamp on a gravity infusion set.</p>	<p>Stops the infusion to prevent air bubbles from forming in IV tubing.</p>
<p>6. Remove protective plastic cover from the new IV solution tubing port.</p>	<p>Keep IV tubing port sterile at all times. If IV tubing port becomes contaminated, dispose of it immediately and replace.</p>
<p>7. Remove the old IV solution bag from the IV pole. Turn IV bag upside down, grasping the tubing port.</p> <p>With a twisting motion, carefully remove IV tubing spike from old IV solution bag.</p>	<p>Removing old solution from IV pole prevents spilling of solution.</p> <p>Ensure IV tubing spike remains sterile during removal to avoid contaminating IV tubing.</p>
<p>8. Using a gentle twisting motion, firmly insert the spike into the new IV bag.</p>	<p>This ensures that a sterile technique is used during the process.</p>

	 <p data-bbox="1066 591 1390 629">Spike new IV solution</p>
<p data-bbox="217 692 906 875">9. Fill the drip chamber by compressing it between your thumb and forefinger. Ensure the drip chamber is one-third to one-half full. Check IV tubing for air bubbles.</p>	<p data-bbox="1054 692 1449 875">Fluid in the drip chamber helps prevent air from being introduced into IV tubing.</p>   <p data-bbox="1054 1787 1401 1872">Fill drip chamber of IV tubing label</p>

10. Open clamp and regulate IV infusion rate via gravity, or press start on the EID as per physician orders.

Once rate is set, count the drops per minute on the gravity set or ensure the EID is running at the correct rate as per physician orders.



Regulate IV tubing with a roller clamp

11. Label new IV solution bag as per agency policy. Time tape gravity IV solutions as per agency policy

Labelling IV solutions provides easy viewing of infusing solutions and additives.



Labelled IV bag

12. Dispose of used supplies, perform hand hygiene, and document IV solution bag change according to agency policy.	Document time, date, type of solution, rate, and total volume.
Data source: Fulcher & Frazier, 2007; Perry et al., 2014.	