How can I help reduce healthcare associated infections?
Infection control is important to the well-being of our patients and for that reason we have infection control procedures in place. Keeping your hands clean is an effective way of preventing the spread of infections. We ask that you, and anyone visiting you, use the hand sanitiser available at the entrance to every ward before coming in to or after leaving the ward. In some situations hands may need to be washed at the sink using soap and water rather than using the hand sanitiser. Staff will let you know if this is the case.

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This leaflet is designed to give you information about your Hickman removal.

If you require a translation or an alternative format of this leaflet please call the Patient Advice & Liaison Service on 01296 316042
Introduction
It has been decided that you no longer require your tunnelled cuffed catheter (HICKMAN LINE).

Your Hickman line will be removed by a trained healthcare professional either in the Xray department, theatres or ward.

Possible risks and complications
Every procedure carries some risks and complications. Before the line is removed the nurse or doctor will fully explain the risks to you to ensure you agree to proceed. You will also be asked at your appointment for your / carers verbal consent before going ahead.

Aftercare
You may have one or two areas after removal that will have a dressing applied (neck and chest area). You will be informed if you have sutures or steri-strips in place.

Sutures will require removal after 7-10 days
Steri - strips after 4 –7 days (these will normally fall off)
Both can be removed by your practice nurse or referring unit/ ward.

You will receive a call 24 hours (or after a weekend) following removal to check all is ok with the area of removal.

Who to contact
If at any time you are worried about your removal area’s e.g. redness, inflamed, painful, new oozing or bleeding or you develop an ongoing temperature, shortness of breath/ pain on breathing. You should contact the Nurse or department where you received your treatment or had your Hickman removed. They will be pleased to discuss your concerns and, if necessary, check the area.

Radiology (Xray) Nursing team
Mon–Fri 9.00am-5.00pm    Tel: 01296 316936

IV Therapy/OPAT Team:
Mon-Sun 8.30am-4.30pm    Tel: 01296 315485
or 07810 181584
Bank Holidays: 9.00am-4.30pm (on call basis)    Tel: 07810 181584

Cancer Care and Haematology Unit, Stoke Mandeville Hospital:
Mon-Fri  9.00am-5.00pm   Tel: 01296 315120

Sunrise Cancer Unit, Wycombe Hospital:
Mon-Fri  9.00am-5.00pm   Tel: 01494 426238

Ward 5, Stoke Mandeville Hospital (24 hours):
Tel: 01296 316336

Acute Oncology Team:
Mon–Fri 9.00am-5.00pm    Tel: 01296 315139 or Bleep 582 via switchboard