MUHC MCH-NICU Central Line Radiography Guideline

Calculating umbilical line insertion depth^a

Catheter insertion depth	Insertion depth (cm)
Umbilical venous catheter (UVC)	(Birth weight [kg] x 1.5) + 5 + cord stump
Umbilical arterial catheter (UAC)	(Birth weight [kg] x 3) + 9 + cord stump

Central line imaging required after initial insertion^b

		AP (Chest and abdomen)	Lateral shoot through (Chest and abdomen)
UAC	At initial insertion or on admission	Х	Х
	Follow up	х	
UVC	At initial insertion or on admission	Х	Х
	Follow up	x	
Arm NICU PICC	At initial insertion or on admission	x Both shoulders abducted 30°	x Both arms at patient's side
	Follow up	x	
Arm IGT PICC	At end of procedure, done in IGT suite	x Both shoulders abducted 30°	
Leg NICU PICC	At initial insertion or on admission	x Frog leg position	x Frog leg position
	Follow up	Х	

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Central line position guide^a

	Target ^b	Avoid	Most important view	Guidelines for x-ray after catheter adjustment
UAC	T6-9 (preferred) L3-4 (acceptable)	T10-L2 Below L4 (bifurcation of aorta)	АР	Use only the most important view to assess catheter position after adjustment
uvc	~T8-9 Junction of IVC and right atrium	Right atrium ~ T7 Portal vein ~ T11	АР	**Repeat x-ray for ALL catheters pulled by ≥ 1 cm EXCEPT for UVCs pulled back below the liver (see below) An x-ray is NOT required for a UVC pulled back to below the liver if: • Gestational age ≥ 35 wk OR ≥ 2.5 kg and UVC pulled to ≤ 4 cm marking at umbilicus • Gestational age < 35 wk AND < 2.5 kg and UVC pulled to ≤ 3 cm marking at umbilicus If UVC marking at umbilicus is deeper than these values, an x-ray is required to ensure that the catheter tip is not in the liver
Right Arm PICC	T5-6	Right atrium about below T6	АР	
Left Arm PICC	T5-6	Right atrium about below T6	АР	
Leg PICC	T9-T11 (preferred) Above L4 (acceptable)	Right atrium ~ T7 Renal veins ~ L1 Below L4 (bifurcation of IVC)	АР	