Clinical Practice Procedures: Drug administration/ Priming of an Alaris™ two-way extension set (with clamps)

Policy code	CPP_DFA_PA2_0221
Date	February, 2021
Purpose	To ensure a consistent procedural approach to the priming of an Alaris two-way extension set (with clamps).
Scope	Applies to Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) clinical staff.
Health care setting	Pre-hospital assessment and treatment.
Population	Applies to all ages unless stated otherwise.
Source of funding	Internal – 100%
Author	Clinical Quality & Patient Safety Unit, QAS
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Information security	UNCLASSIFIED – Queensland Government Information Security Classification Framework.
URL	https://ambulance.qld.gov.au/clinical.html

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Priming of an Alaris™ two-way extension set (with clamps)

The Alaris™ 2-way extension set (with clamps) has been introduced to ensure the availability of emergency intravenous access via a second port when sodium chloride 0.9% is being administered.

Meticulous attention to the priming of the Alaris™ 2-way extension set (with clamps) will minimise the likelihood of air entrainment, reducing the risk of air embolus.

✓ Indications

- To prepare an Alaris™ 2-way extension set (with clamps) prior to the administration of medications AND/OR fluids through an appropriately placed cannula
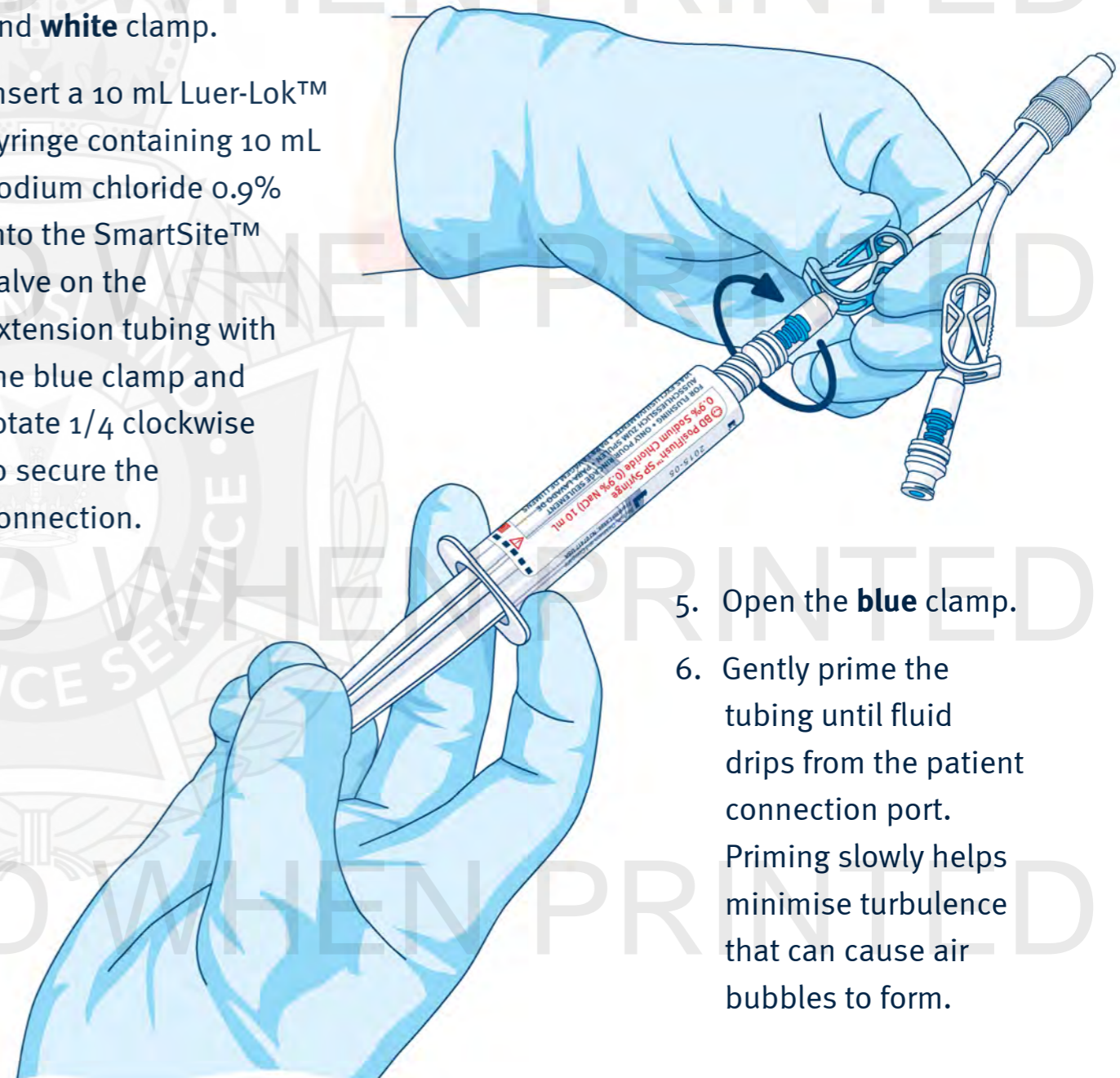
✗ Contraindications

- For the administration of simultaneous medications

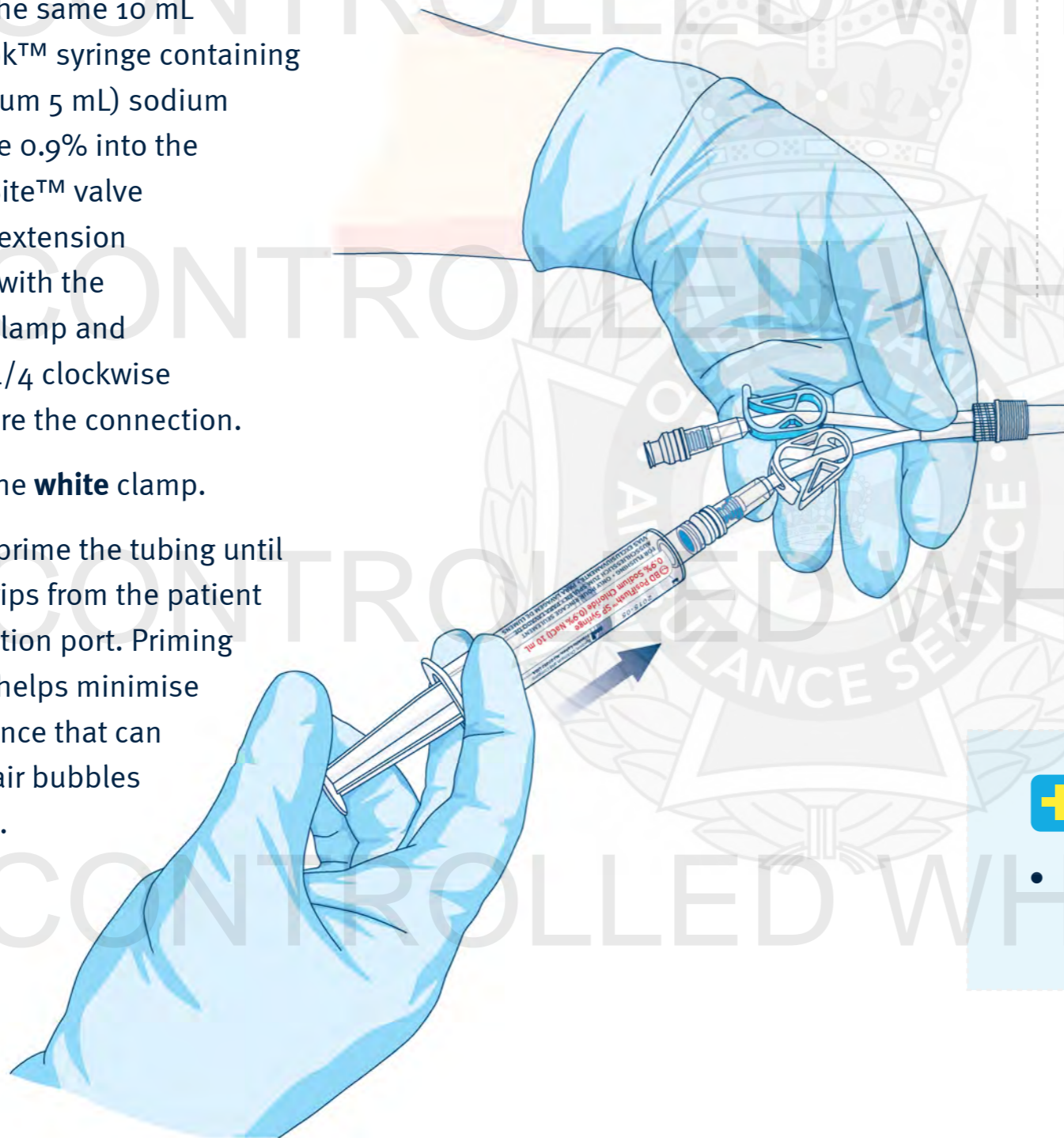## ! Complications

- Air embolism
- Infection

1. Remove the 2-way extension set from the packaging.

2. Clean both SmartSite™ valves with an appropriate antimicrobial swab.

3. Close the **blue** and **white** clamp.

4. Insert a 10 mL Luer-Lok™ syringe containing 10 mL sodium chloride 0.9% into the SmartSite™ valve on the extension tubing with the blue clamp and rotate 1/4 clockwise to secure the connection.

5. Open the **blue** clamp.

6. Gently prime the tubing until fluid drips from the patient connection port. Priming slowly helps minimise turbulence that can cause air bubbles to form.

7. Close the **blue** clamp.

8. Disconnect the syringe's luer by securely holding the SmartSite™ valve while turning the syringe counter clockwise.

9. Insert the same 10 mL Luer-Lok™ syringe containing (minimum 5 mL) sodium chloride 0.9% into the SmartSite™ valve on the extension tubing with the **white** clamp and rotate 1/4 clockwise to secure the connection.

10. Open the **white** clamp.

11. Gently prime the tubing until fluid drips from the patient connection port. Priming slowly helps minimise turbulence that can cause air bubbles to form.

12. Close the **white** clamp.

13. Disconnect the luer by securely holding the SmartSite™ valve while turning the syringe counter clockwise.

14. Inspect the 2-way extension set and SmartSite™ valves to ensure no air bubbles are visible. If air bubbles are present, repeat the priming procedure until all air bubbles are dislodged and have been released from the tubing.

15. Remove the 2-way extension set's patient connection port cap.

16. Connect the extension set to the SmartSite™ valve on the patient's cannula.

17. Administer medications AND/OR fluids as required.

➕ **Additional information**

- All IV cannulae should be checked for patency prior to the connection of a 2-way extension set.