

The Prescribing of Indwelling Pleural Catheter (IPC) Drainage Systems.

The **Rocket IPC drain** is an indwelling pleural catheter drainage system designed to drain recurrent malignant effusion from the chest. The drain is used to prevent repeat admission into a hospital and improve or help maintain quality of life. The catheter has a one way valve which when operated will only let fluid out, and will not let air back into the chest. It is designed for patients to use themselves however on occasion they may need assistance. Rocket drains may be required for a few weeks to several months.

Vacuum bottles are used to drain the chest, and it usually takes around 5 to 45 minutes. Between drainage the catheter is covered by a dressing and the patient can continue with their usual activities of daily living.

Please review the following considerations carefully prior to prescribing:

- Rocket drains can be prescribed in primary care **ONLY** under the direct recommendation and ongoing supervision of the patient's specialist. **No approval for funding is required.**
- All patients must receive training on how to operate the Rocket drain and be advised what actions to take if complications occur.
- If patients are unable to perform the treatment themselves, a referral to the community nursing services must be completed prior to commencing treatment. For **long term** provision needing **complete assistance** from the district nurse, they can order the drains via NHS Supply Chain whilst the patient is under their care.
- Patients transitioning from secondary care into primary care should be given a full 2 week supply of appliances upon discharge. This is excluding patients who are assessed in outpatient clinics AND do not require this treatment within 48 hours of being assessed.
- Please prescribe bottles in multiples of five

Rocket drains can be ordered from the patient's local pharmacy. If lead times are quoted at 8-10 days, ask the pharmacist to contact Rocket Medical directly. Pharmacies can order direct from Rocket Medical on 0191 419 6988. Delivery should be within 48hrs of receiving the order.

Ordering codes

Product	Drug tariff code	Supply chain code	Cost on Drug tariff
Rocket IPC Dressing Pack & Bottle (Pleural) 500ml*	R54400	FET1544	£25.65 each
Rocket IPC Dressing Pack & Bottle (Pleural) 1000ml	R54411	FSW706	£37.81 each
Rocket IPC Pre Evacuated Bottle 500ml*	R54410	FET1546	£17.95 each
Rocket IPC Pre Evacuated Bottle 1000ml*	R54411-00-00	FSW708	£28.73 each

Waste disposal.

Clinical waste **must** be disposed of correctly in the appropriate clinical waste bin. If a patient is independent and self-caring with their drainage system then they **must** be provided with the appropriate bin via their local council. They can organise this by contacting the relevant waste disposal team.

East Suffolk

General: **0345 606 6067** or email waste.management@suffolk.gov.uk.

Council website	Council phone number
Babergh District Council	0300 1234000 (option 4)
East Suffolk Council	0333 0162000
Ipswich Borough Council	01473 433090
Mid Suffolk District Council	0300 123400 (option 4)
West Suffolk Council	01284 757320

West Suffolk

Contact details:

Customer Services – Waste disposal 01284 757320
customer.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Please note: Even if a district nurse is attending the patient for other needs, they are not responsible for the removal of the clinical waste unless they are directly carrying out regular treatment for the drain itself.