A randomised controlled trial to evaluate the clinical and cost-effectiveness of Hickman line insertions in adult cancer patients by nurses

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Record Status
This is a bibliographic record of a published health technology assessment from a member of INAHTA. No evaluation of the quality of this assessment has been made for the HTA database.

Citation

Authors' objectives
To examine the clinical and cost-effectiveness of image-guided Hickman line insertions versus blind Hickman line insertions undertaken by nurses in adult cancer patients at Christie Hospital NHS Trust. To explore whether or not experienced nurses can transfer skills to trainee operators via a short but intensive training programme.

Authors' conclusions
This report indicates that nurse insertion of Hickman lines in the majority of adult cancer patients at Christie Hospital NHS Trust is both safe and effective. However, there are a select group of patients for whom image-guided insertion may be preferred. The results reveal that skills and expertise can be transferred from trainer to trainee through a relatively short but intensive training course. From the patient satisfaction evidence available, it is evident that patients support nurse insertion. Nurse insertions can free up clinical resources in a safe and effective manner at a time of unprecedented pressure within the NHS.

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