PICC Lines!

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Let's pretend this kid is you
And this person is your doctor.
Your doctor probably told you that you need a PICC line.
What is a PICC line?
PICC Stands for:
Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter
Ok, but what does that actually mean?
You have blood vessels in your arms and legs (and other places, too!) that travel all the way to your heart!

**Red arteries**
- Carry blood from your heart to the rest of your body.

**Blue veins**
- Carry blood from the rest of your body back to your heart and lungs.
A **PICC line** goes into a vein in your arm or leg and stops just next to your heart.

These green lines are examples of how your **PICC line** might travel through your body to your heart.
Why do you need a PICC line?
With a **PICC** line, we can give you drugs...

Color in the medications!
...to fight infections from **bugs**, like bacteria or fungi!

Color in these yucky germs!
We may also use a **PICC line** to give you blood!
Your PICC line may look like this:

These "ports" stay on the outside of your body. You may have 2 or 3 on your PICC.

These clamps seal the ports shut when they are not being used.

This long tube is the bendy, flexible part that goes in to your body.
Your PICC line is **BENDY** and very flexible.

You won't know it's there when you bend your arm, and no needles will stay in your body once we're all done.
What happens when you get a PICC line placed?
This is an ultrasound machine. (Well, this is kind of what an ultrasound machine looks like!)

Ultrasound transducers are special cameras that let us see blood vessels through the skin.
This is what the ultrasound transducer looks like up close.

We use the blue gel so we can see more clearly.
With the ultrasound, we see blood vessels.

This does not hurt! We're just taking a look!
First, you will go into a bright room with a long table and some machines.

We use this part of the machine to take x-rays.

This is where you'll put your head when you lay down.

Your team might move your bed up and down this long table!

Screens like these will show us your x-rays, which we use to guide us as we place your PICC line.
Your doctor and their team will say hello!
We will use some soap to get your arm really clean.

The soap may be chilly!
Once the soap is dry, we will put some blue covers over your arm to keep it super clean.

Your arm may be a different color because of the soap. This will wash off later!
Next, your doctor and the new friends you just met will put on a gown, a face mask, a hair cover, and gloves!
Color in your doctor!
We put plastic over the ultrasound transducer so it stays clean, too!
Your doctor will use the ultrasound machine to see your blood vessels to help place your PICC.
Next, you'll get medicine to numb your arm.

For most kids, this part is the toughest. It may feel like a bee sting or a bug bite, but it only lasts for a few seconds.
Color in our friendly bees!
Next, your doctor and their team will put the **PICC line** in. You might feel pressure, but it should **not** hurt.

This will only take a few minutes.
Complete the maze to help your doctor place your **PICC**!
Once your **PICC line** is in, we’ll take a chest x-ray to make sure it’s in the exact right spot.

Then, we’ll put some special tape over your **PICC**.

You might get a blue wrapping, or a clear bandage!
Your nurse will show you and your parents how to take care of your PICC line.

Make sure to keep it CLEAN and DRY!
Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC)

Vein
Catheter
Assistant
Radiologist
Nurse

Guide Wire
Ultrasound
X-ray
Sutures
Sterilize

Antibiotics
Chemotherapy
Television
Medicine
Dilator

Anesthesia
Heart
Bandage
Gloves
Mask
The amount of time your **PICC line** will stay in place depends on why you needed it. Normally, you can have it removed in a few weeks, after you've finished the meds!
That's it!
You're gonna do GREAT!
maze solution:

Start!

end!

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Peripherally Inserted Central Catheter (PICC)

VEIN  GUIDEWIRE  ANTIBIOTICS  ANESTHESIA
CATHETER  ULTRASOUND  CHEMOTHERAPY  HEART
ASSISTANT  XRAY  TELEVISION  BANDAGE
RADIOLOGIST  SUTURES  MEDICINE  GLOVES
NURSE  STERILIZE  DILATOR  MASK