

## Michelle Endresz

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**From:** Heidi Chapman on behalf of Amy Tucker  
**Sent:** Friday, October 13, 2023 5:12 PM  
**To:** Amy Tucker  
**Cc:** Heidi Chapman  
**Subject:** CMO BLAST: Please do not use Introducers as Alternatives to Intravenous Catheters

**Importance:** High

It has come to our attention that some kits designed for use as introducers for vascular catheters or devices, such as the Micropuncture Introducer Set and Merit Medical Mini Access Kit, are being used by some providers as indwelling short-term intravascular catheters instead.

These kits are designed to help gain access to the vascular system and include an introducer and not a catheter. The introducers in the kits are relatively large diameter (5F), long (10 cm), and stiff and should not be used as a replacement for venous catheters/lines. Use of introducers as venous catheters is associated with a higher risk of thrombophlebitis, DVT, venous injury and extravasation. Please stop this practice.

The hospital is piloting a venous catheter device (PowerGlide) as an alternative to the use of extended-dwell peripheral and midline catheters.

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