

A central venous catheter in place for ≥ 3 days and at least one of the following:
suspected infection without another confirmed source, signs of sepsis, septic shock or
exit site infection

- Remove catheter
- Order two blood cultures
- Continue evaluation for infection



Catheter needed?

Yes

Order two blood cultures

Catheter site infected?

Yes

Exit Site Infection

- Remove catheter
- Insert new catheter at new site
- Start empirical antibiotics if sepsis or septic shock is present

No

Sepsis or septic shock?

Yes

Start empirical antibiotics

No

•Change catheter over guide wire
•Culture catheter tip

No

Septic shock?

Yes

Source of infection other than catheter probable?

Yes

No

- Remove catheter
- Culture catheter tip
- Insert new catheter at new site

No

Tip culture positive?

Catheter infection unlikely

- Continue evaluation for other sources of infection

Yes

Blood cultures positive?

No

Yes

Catheter colonization

- Remove catheter and insert new catheter at new site (if not already done)
- Antibiotics are not indicated

Catheter related bloodstream infection

- Remove catheter and insert new catheter at new site (if not already done)
- Antibiotics are indicated
- Tailor antibiotics to the sensitivity of organisms
- Treat for 10-14 days