Abstract
Phlebitis is a complication that is frequently associated with IV therapy. A number of literature articles have written that phlebitis can occur in as much as 25-70% of patients. It is defined as the acute inflammation of the internal lining of the vein.

Introduction
inflammation of the intimal lining of the vein. Phlebitis is a progressive complication. Early recognition and management is key to limiting progression. It is characterized by pain and a tenderness along the course of the vein, redness and swelling and warmth can be felt at insertion site.

Types and Causes of Phlebitis

Chemical Phlebitis
- Hypertonic solutions >375 mOsm/L

Mechanical Phlebitis
- Trauma from the IV catheter during insertion or while indwelling.

Bacterial Phlebitis
- Compromised skin integrity (i.e., shaving)
- Non-sterile dressing.

Signs and symptoms
- Erythema at the site with or without pain
- Pain at access site with erythema and/or edema
- Pain at access site with erythema streak
- Formation palpable venous cord >1 inch in length purulent drainage.

Management of Phlebitis
- Remove the catheter
- Culture cannula if infection is suspected
- Apply warm moist compress
- Provide comfort measures

References