Abstract
Peripherally Inserted Central Catheters (PICC) have been widespread among venous access devices. The major challenge for most institutions is to ensure proper maintenance of these devices and keep the patency until the end of the therapy. Currently, we can find different catheter, such as valved and non-valved tip. Studies have shown a significant reduction in valved tip catheters occlusion rates when compared to non-valved.

Objectives
• To define strategies to ensure patency of PICC non-valved tip through interventions by the nurse vascular access team;
• To identify adverse events earlier for proper maintenance and troubleshooting.

Methods
This study was made from 02/03/2015 to 04/05/2015, in a private hospital located in São Paulo city, Brazil. We designed a strategy with all patients using this device divided into two groups during two months.
• The FIRST GROUP without visiting during one week;
• The SECOND GROUP with two visits a week.

Table 1. Items evaluated during the team’s visit of vascular access nurses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patency of Peripherally Inserted central catheter (PICC)</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Dressing conditions</td>
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<td>• Early search of deep vein thrombosis</td>
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<td>• Infection signs and symptoms</td>
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<td>• Check X-ray to confirm tip position and check the type of intravenous therapy</td>
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<td>• If it’s possible remove the PICC earlier</td>
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Results
• During the period of study 160 catheters per day were evaluated, and with occlusion and no possibility of blood withdraw of 5 cases per day.
• An individual evaluation was performed to identify patency problems with normal saline solution flush to restore catheter patency.

After the study period, we could decrease 50% of malfunction cases, from 5 to 2.5.

Figure 1. Results team’s visit of vascular access nurses.

Figure 2. Nurse Vascular Access Team – Hospital Sírio-Libanês – 2014.

Conclusions
• These outcomes have proved that, this strategy is effective to reduce occlusions events and impacting on the therapy quality.
• We conclude that the nurse vascular access team has been a very important and effective strategy to get good outcomes, reduce malfunction catheter, to decrease blood stream infection, increased nursing staff, medical and patient satisfaction.

References