## **IV Pole**

These instructions are guidelines only. Use only as instructed by your healthcare provider.

## What is an IV Pole used for?

IV poles, or intravenous poles, are medical devices designed as a slender iron or aluminum portable pole with adjustable height, a 4-5 wheeled base for stability, and 2 to 4 hooks on the pole top that provides a secure place to hang bags of medicine or fluid for administration to a patient.

## How Do I Use an IV Pole?

- The IV pole must be situated in a suitable position near the patient requiring treatment.
  - The IV pole must be close enough to allow treatment via the bag that is hung off the hook/s on the top of the pole.
  - Take care to place the IV pole in a place where it will not create a tripping hazard for patient or carer.
- Adjust height of the pole as required and ensure all height adjustment mechanisms are locked in place before hanging a bag.
- Hang bag/s securely from the 2-4 hooks located at the top of the pole.
- Ensure the tubing is not crimped or kinked between the bag on the pole to the patient.

**WARNING:** Take care not to overload the top of the pole as the weight may be unbalanced and cause the pole to tip over.

**WARNING:** Exercise caution when walking with an IV pole, the wheeled base can create a trip hazard.

## How Do I Care for the IV Pole?

- The IV pole can be cleaned with detergent and water then dried with disposable paper towels. Do not use abrasive powders or scouring pads.
- Do not use solvents, such as acetone, lacquer thinner or turpentine to clean the IV pole.

Please ensure that equipment returned to the Red Cross is clean and in good condition.



