

Tenchkoff Drainage Catheter

Patient Information Sheet

Using ultrasound, the radiologist has placed a drainage tube under your skin to the collection of fluid. The tubing can be attached to a drainage bag periodically to relieve pressure or discomfort.

We are sensitive to your needs and concerns and want to let you know your safety and well-being are our primary concern. These instructions will help you understand the recovery process.

Instructions after Tenchkoff Drainage Catheter Insertion

- Rest for the remainder of the day following your procedure.
- Have a responsible adult spend the night with you following your procedure.
- Do not drive for 24 hours following your procedure.
- Do not lift anything weighing over 5 kilograms (10 pounds) for 48 hours following your procedure.
- Do not participate in sports or strenuous activity for 48 hours following your procedure.
- Keep the bag lower than the insertion site to help with drainage.
- Watch for kinks in the tubing as this can stop the flow of fluid from your abdomen. Empty the drainage bag from the spout at the bottom. The drainage bag may be removed between drainages for your convenience. Keep a piece of sterile gauze taped to the connection end to keep it clean.

Diet

- You can eat what you normally eat.

Medications

- If needed for pain or discomfort, take Tylenol (acetaminophen) for 48 hours following your procedure. Follow the directions on the label.
- **Do not** use Aspirin or ibuprofen products, such as Advil or Motrin, as it may increase the chance of bleeding.



Dressing Care/Sutures

- The sutures at the skin should be removed in about 10 days by your doctor or Home Care Provider. By then the skin will have healed to secure the tube in place.
- Change the dressing around the tube at least once per week or more frequently if it becomes soiled or wet.
- The drainage bag should be changed every seven (7) days.

Bathing

- You may shower or sponge bath, but keep the dressing dry.
- **Do not** bathe or swim (especially in lakes) while the tube is in place. Submersing the catheter increases the chances of developing an infection.

What to watch for

- Fever more than 100°F (38°C) or chills
- Unusual tenderness or upper abdomen pain
- Redness, swelling, foul odor, pus or leakage from the site
- If you have stitches that become loose or break
- If there is little to no drainage
- If the catheter becomes dislodged or pulled out **do not** attempt to reinsert the tube yourself. Contact your doctor.

If you experience any of the above changes call your doctor, Telehealth Ontario (1-866-797-0000), or go to your closest Emergency Department. Take this sheet with you.

