DISCHARGE INSTRUCTIONS FOR DRAIN CARE

{ } Abscess Drain  { } Nephrostomy Tube

Daily care of drain will keep the drain functioning properly, allowing the abscess to drain and help you heal.

TO FLUSH DRAIN:

1. Use ________cc’s of Sterile Normal Saline
2. Turn the 3 way stopcock off to the drainage bag
3. Clean the flushing port with alcohol and attach the flush syringe
4. Gently inject the flush
5. Turn the stopcock off to the flushing port and open to drainage bag

RECORDING OUTPUT:

After flushing, empty the drainage bag and record the output. Subtract the daily flush from the output before recording. Record amount on daily log. Bring this daily log to every doctor visit so the drain can be evaluated. When output drops less than 10 cc/per day for 2-3 days, contact Interventional Radiology at 601-984-2833 or your primary care doctor for removal of drain.

DRESSING CHANGE AND SITE CARE:

1. Remove dressing and clean around tube with sterile Normal Saline using a cotton ball or Q-tip.
2. Remove all crust around site, if present.
3. Place clean gauze pad over tube site and secure with tape.
4. Do NOT bathe while drain is in place. Do not put drain directly in water.
5. You may shower, but MUST cover drain completely.
6. Change dressing after shower to keep dry.

WHEN TO CALL PHYSICIAN:

- If tube doesn’t flush or flush comes out around site while flushing. (A small amount of leakage may occur, this is normal.)
- If skin around tube is red, irritated, or a foul odor or pus is present.
- If you have nausea/vomiting or developed unusual pain around the tube, unexplained abdominal pain, or back pain. If tube is capped, uncap and connect to drainage bag.
- Call Interventional Radiology Department at (601) 984-2833 from 7 am-4pm. After 4 pm weekend or holiday, call your primary physician. The UMC Emergency Room is available 24 hours a day at (601) 984-4001.
- If there is an emergency, call 911 or go to your nearest emergency room.