



TENCKHOFF CATHETER PLACEMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATIENTS

BEFORE AND AFTER SURGERY

BEFORE:

1. It is important to prevent constipation pre and post catheter placement. Be sure to eat high fiber foods. If no bowel movement use Colace or an over the counter laxative.
2. Please tell the surgeon where your belt line is so the catheter is placed away from that site.

AFTER:

1. **After the catheter placement do not remove the abdominal dressing. The dressing will be changed at your first Home Dialysis Nurse visit. Keep the dressing dry and clean. Do not take showers or tub baths.**
2. At discharge, you will receive an appointment to see the Home Dialysis Nurse in a week to have the dressing changed and have the catheter checked for patency.
3. If the dressing becomes loose you may use additional tape to secure it.
4. If the dressing becomes wet or you notice bleeding through the dressing, call the dialysis nurse at 434-924-2106. You may have to go to the ER if you notice excessive bleeding, or have nausea, vomiting, fever or severe worsening pain.
5. Do not use any sharp objects (scissors, knife etc.) around or near the catheter. Protect catheter at all times from any possible damage.
6. You may immediately resume gentle activity (such as walking). Do not strain....you may need to use a laxative during this time. Do not do any heavy lifting. (not over 10 pounds). Allow adequate time to rest and let the site heal. Return to employment must be individualized and is very much dependent upon the type of work. In general, return to office type work in one to two weeks, sooner if you can work part-time for the first week back.
7. When coughing, use a pillow or your hands to support your surgical area.
8. You may notice mild discomfort or pain in the surgical area. Pain medication will be prescribed upon release from the hospital. It is recommended that the prescription be filled—even though you feel OK at the time of discharge. Local anesthetic medication is regularly used to help numb the incision site at the end of the procedure, but wears off after several hours. Although some patients never require anything more than plain Tylenol, it is common to require a prescription pain medication the first few days, especially at bedtime the first night. If you have severe or worsening abdominal pain, call your doctor.
9. For problems, questions, concerns, call 434-924-2106 M-F 8am-4pm and speak with the dialysis nurse. If at night or on the weekend, please call 434-924-0000 and ask for the Renal doctor on call.