



INSERTION OF A CENTRAL LINE

These instructions will help you take care of yourself at home.



DIET

Start with clear liquids after you reach home. Wait about 45 minutes and if you do not feel sick, try bland foods first and then progress to your usual diet.



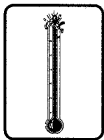
ACTIVITIES

Rest today. Avoid lifting or straining for a few days, then you may resume your normal activity gradually.



SPECIAL CARE NEEDED

If you have shortness of breath, sudden chest pain, coughing up of blood or swelling or bleeding at the surgery site, call the doctor or go to your nearest emergency room. Keep your dressing clean and dry for 48 hours, then remove it and you may shower. If there are tape strips on the skin (steri-strips), leave them on for 5-7 days.



INFECTION

Watch for any sign of infection after surgery: **fever, chills, increased pain, redness, swelling, or foul smelling discharge from your wound.** Call your doctor at the first sign of any infection.



WHEN TO CALL YOUR DOCTOR

Call 434-924-0000 and ask for "Resident on call" for Dr. _____ if:

- No urine output eight (8) hours after surgery
- No bowel movement in three (3) days
- There are signs of infection as above
- Vomiting lasting more than four (4) hours
- Large amount of bleeding or swelling

Call 911 if you have chest pain or shortness of breath