Accordion Drainage System

Discharge Instruction

An accordion drainage system is used to help remove fluid from your wound, abdominal cavity, or lung cavity. The drain tube stays in until the amount of drainage slows down. The bag has a valve at the top that does not allow air or fluid to go back into your wound or lungs. Empty your drainage bag at least once a day or any time it is full.

**Drain Instructions**

1. Watch for red or itchy areas around the entrance of the drain to your wound.
2. **Do not** get the drain system wet.

**How to Empty Your Drain**

1. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
2. Unpin the drain from your clothing ensuring it hangs below the drainage site.
3. Empty the drainage bag into a measuring container.
4. To prevent infection **do not** let the emptying valve touch the measuring container or any other surface.
5. Measure and dispose of fluid in the toilet.
6. Gently squeeze air out of the drainage bag and close.
7. Pin the drain back onto your clothing to avoid pulling it out by accident.
8. Wash your hands after emptying drainage to reduce the risk of infection.
9. Squeeze the accordion to get the fluid draining and when the accordion is full as directed in steps 1 to 8.
10. Write the amount of drainage on your chart. If you have more than one drain, remember to write them on separate sheets. Total the 24 hour drainage at the same time each night.
11. Bring your drainage sheet(s) to your next visit to your health care provider.

Call your health care provider if you have any of the following:

- fever or chills (temperature higher than 38.5°C or 100°F)
- any increase in pain at the insertion site
- your drainage is bright red, green, or brown
- if your drainage suddenly stops
- your drain falls out.

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## Accordion Drainage Record

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