



Drain Log Instruction Packet

DRAIN RECORD INFORMATION

- A drain is placed to prevent excess fluid from accumulating at the surgery site.
- The drain must be emptied 2-3 times a day (about every eight hours at 6:00 A.M./2:00 P.M./10:00 P.M.) or when 2/3 full.
- Open the cap of the drain bulb. Pour out the drainage into a clean measuring cup. Record the amount of drainage and the time of day. Dispose of drainage in the toilet and flush.
- After the fluid is emptied, squeeze the bulb tight and recap to maintain the suction. The bulb suction is working when the bulb is flat or deflated.
- The drain tubing must be “milked” or “stripped” occasionally in order to keep the tubing clear of small clots that can block the fluid flow. Hold the tubing securely at the skin site with one hand. With the other hand, pinch the tubing at the upper portion between your thumb and index finger and slide your fingers towards the bulb compressing the tubing. An alcohol pad can be used to help strip the drain between the fingers.
- If the tubing and bulb should come apart, clean both ends with alcohol and reconnect. Squeeze the bulb again and replace cap.
- The drain will be removed within 7-14 days or when your total output for the 24 hours is less than one ounce (30 cc).
- If you have more than one drain in place, please indicate which drain is being recorded on your record sheet.
- Please measure output in cc's or ml's (they are the same thing).
- Do not immerse drains while showering.
- Change the gauze dressing around the drain site each day.
- Check the skin around the drain for leakage or redness. A slight redness immediately around the tube is not unusual. If there is leakage around the drain, begin “milking” the drain and observe if the leakage reduces.
- Always secure the drain to you clothing so there is NO tension on the drain at the incision site.
- Do not cut drain tubes.
- Keep tubes connected to the bulbs; check that the bulb is always deflated (or flat).
- Call 832-835-1131 if there is a large amount of leakage around the drain, a marked increase in drainage output (double the usual flow), increased heat, redness or tenderness around the drain insertion site, or if you have any questions or concerns.

Date	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc
Time 6:00 A.M.	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc
Time 2:00 P.M.	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc	Output _____ cc
Time 10:00 P.M.	Total _____ cc	Total _____ cc	Total _____ cc	Total _____ cc