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Sudden Onset Leaking Through Voice Prosthesis or The Valve Is Stuck Open

What Do I Do?

1. Place a cotton-tipped applicator or a Q-tip in the end of the voice prosthesis to plug the shaft. This will prevent the fluids from coming through the voice prosthesis.
2. Drink 8-12 ounces of a warm beverage (i.e. coffee or tea) or a carbonated drink (i.e. Coke or Pepsi).
3. Remove cotton tipped applicator.
4. Clean the voice prosthesis with the cleaning brush.
5. Flush warm water or saline through the prosthesis with a pipet or flush.
6. Produce a loud “aaahhhhhh” -as if yelling at somebody.
7. Take a drink and monitor for leaking through the voice prosthesis. If there is still leaking, repeat steps 1-7.
8. If leaking continues after you have gone through this process 3-4 times, contact your Speech-Language Pathologist.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Your Speech-Language Pathologist:

Teresa Lyden, MA, CCC/SLP, (734) 936-8051

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