

Port or Catheter Removal Instructions

What will happen after my procedure?

- You received local anesthesia. As the anesthesia wears off, you may feel some pain and discomfort.
- The stitches will dissolve in 10-14 days.
- The steri strips (white paper tape over the incision) will fall off in approximately 1 week.

How will I care for myself at home?

- You may resume showering in 8 hours.
 - Do not swim, use a hot tub, or take a bath for 14 days after your procedure.
- No strenuous physical activity for 2 days.
- Avoid activities that cause excessive tension or stretching across the healing wound site for 1 week.
- Resume your daily prescription medications.
- Resume your previous diet.

How do I take care of my bandage?

Keep your bandage in place for 48-72 hours. If the dressing becomes wet or soiled before then, you may change it:

1. Remove dressing
2. Wash incision with mild soap and water; pat dry
3. Apply a sterile dressing (such as a Band-Aid) over wound

After your first dressing is removed, wash daily:

1. Wash the incision site with liquid antibacterial soap
2. Rinse
3. Pat dry
4. Cover with a clean Band Aid if necessary to prevent abrasion.
5. After 1 week, no Band Aid is necessary; keep area clean and dry.

How do I care for a skin adhesive?

You may have a type a skin adhesive (glue) instead of a bandage. Do not bandage a wound treated with a skin adhesive. The skin adhesive works like a bandage.

- Do not use antibiotic ointment as it can break down the adhesive.
- You can shower while the adhesive is on your skin (same day is ok), but do not take a bath or soak or scrub the area for 14 days. Dry your skin by patting it gently with a towel.
- The adhesive will peel off on its own, usually in 5 to 10 days.
 - If it has been 10 days and you still have adhesive on you, you can use antibiotic ointment or petroleum jelly to gently rub it off.
- **Call if you have signs of infection**, such as redness, swelling, or pus.

What signs and symptoms should I expect?

Tenderness at site, minimal swelling, bruising or slight bleeding may occur.

When should I call for help?

Call Interventional Radiology if you notice any of the following:

- fever (higher than 100.5F)
- redness
- swelling
- red streaking
- pain

- pus
- excessive or prolonged bleeding

What is the contact information?

If any of the above symptoms occur:

- Monday-Friday 8am-5pm call Interventional Radiology:
 - (734) 936-4536
- Afterhours, weekends or holidays call Interventional Radiology and ask the operator for the “Interventional Radiology On Call Fellow/Resident”:
 - (734) 936-6267
- If you cannot reach medical assistance, go to an Emergency Room. Take this form with you.

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