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Drain care instructions

Drains have been placed in the neck to help you heal from surgery. Please see below for general instructions on how to care for your drains. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our office.

***** PLEASE BRING THIS RECORD TO ALL MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS UNTIL THE DRAINS ARE REMOVED.*****

1. Wash your hands with soap and water after the drain is emptied.
2. Firmly hold the tubing near your skin so you don't pull out the drain. Pinch the tube with your other hand and slide your fingers down towards the drain bulb.
 - Your care team will advise if you need to repeat this step more frequently throughout the day to avoid any clotting in the drains.
3. Open the cap on the drain and empty the liquid into the cup provided by your care team.
4. Write down the amount of fluid drained (in milliliters), which drain the fluid came from, and what color the drainage was.
5. Compress (squish) the bulb and then replace the cap on the drain. The drain must be compressed to work properly.
6. After you have recorded the drainage information, you may discard the drained fluid down the sink or toilet.
7. In general, drains should be emptied at least twice daily, and more as needed. Your care team will advise how often your drains should be emptied.

Contact your care team immediately if you have an increase in drainage from your drains, or there is a change in color.

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Drain 1 | Drain 2 | Drain 3 |
| Date: _____ | Date: _____ | Date: _____ |
| Time: _____ | Time: _____ | Time: _____ |
| Amount drained (in mL): _____ | Amount drained (in mL): _____ | Amount drained (in mL): _____ |
| Color of drainage: _____ | Color of drainage: _____ | Color of drainage: _____ |
| Drain 1 | Drain 2 | Drain 3 |
| Date: _____ | Date: _____ | Date: _____ |
| Time: _____ | Time: _____ | Time: _____ |
| Amount drained (in mL): _____ | Amount drained (in mL): _____ | Amount drained (in mL): _____ |
| Color of drainage: _____ | Color of drainage: _____ | Color of drainage: _____ |

