



DRAIN CARE INSTRUCTIONS AND LOG

Drain care is required as part of your surgery.

Check drains periodically throughout the day, empty as needed and submit the drain log to your surgeon.

1. Wash your hands well with soap.
2. “Milk” or strip the drain tubing. This is done to prevent small clots from blocking fluid flow.
3. To do this, hold the tubing securely at the skin site with one hand. With the other hand, pinch the tubing between your thumb and index finger and apply firm pressure as you strip the tubing towards the bulb.
4. If the tubing and bulb come apart, wipe the ends with alcohol and reconnect. Squeeze the bulb again and replace cap.
5. Open cap on the drain bulb. Pour out drainage into a clean **measuring cup**. Record the amount of drainage and time of day as indicated. Dispose of drainage in the toilet and flush.
6. **Squeeze bulbs tightly.** Replace cap.

Additional Instructions

- Always secure the drain to your clothing so that there is no tension on the drain at the incision site.
- Do not cut the drains.
- Keep tubes connected to the bulbs.
- Check that the bulb is always collapsed (or flat) and maintaining suction.

Caution and Concern

Call our office at 973-822-3000 immediately if any of the following occur:

- A large amount of leakage around the drain.
- A marked increase in drainage output (double your usual flow).
- Increased heat, redness, or tenderness around the insertion site.



Drainage Log

DAY/DATE	TIME	AMOUNT DRAINED	AMOUNT DRAINED
		Patient's Right	Patient's Left
1.			
DAILY TOTAL		Total:	Total:
2.			
		Total:	Total:
DAILY TOTAL			
3.			
DAILY TOTAL		Total:	Total:
4.			



DAILY TOTAL		Total:	Total:
5.			