

Indwelling Catheter Insertion and Post Procedure Care

Pleural effusion is a buildup of fluids in your lungs.

Home Care Instructions

- Keep a logbook for the drainage amount.
- Drain daily up to 1L/day -may abort drainage attempt if symptoms, such as chest pain, worsening shortness of breath develop. Re-attempt the following day.
- If draining 200ml or less of fluid for 3 consecutive days, notify Provider or RN at BMDA Clinic of drainage amounts, they will instruct you about any changes in drainage schedule
- Change dressing every day for the first 3 days after placement to check the incision site, then can change dressing at least once per week and if soiled/wet/dirty, please keep the tip of catheter out from under dressing

When to Contact Your Doctor

Call your Baptist MD Anderson oncology doctor if you have problems with the pleural catheter or if your symptoms return after treatment.

Watch for:

- More discomfort near your incisions, especially if you see pus or redness or if your skin is hot to the touch
- Discolored (more red or more white) drainage, especially if you also have a fever or flu-like symptoms
- Shortness of breath or sudden increase in shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- More swelling or redness of the skin near the catheter
- The catheter moves in and out at the insertion site

Follow up

Follow up in clinic in _____ weeks.

Emergency Care

In case of any emergency, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency center. *For non-emergencies during business hours, call our triage line at 904-202-7300 option 3, then option 3 again.*

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