

Pleural Effusion

When to Contact Your Doctor

Pleural effusion is a buildup of fluids in your chest. Call your doctor right away, if you notice any problems or recurrence (return) of pleural effusion.

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

Do not go to another doctor or clinic for treatment of the conditions listed below, unless it is an emergency.

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