

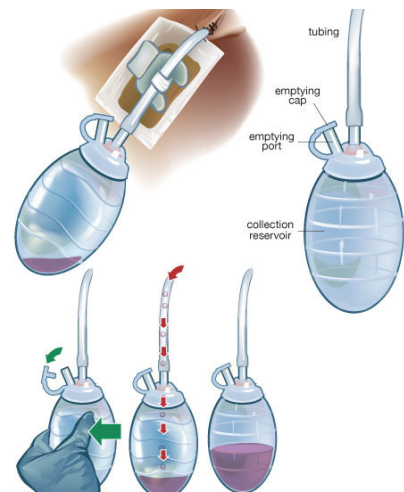
How to Care for Your Drain After Surgery

After surgery, you will have a drain connected to tubing coming from your incisions. This drain will have a bulb at the end of the tubing. This bulb is often referred to as a “bulb” or “grenade”. This device gently suctions fluid from your surgical site. The drain promotes healing and minimizes the chance of infection. You may have the drain for a week or two after surgery. Keep the bulb securely pinned to your undergarment or shirt.

Please empty your drain daily, and record the output for each 24 hours, on the chart on the reverse side of these instructions. The record of your drainage will help Dr. Lynch determine when it is time to remove your drain.

TO EMPTY THE DRAIN BULB:

1. Wash your hands
2. Keep the site where the drain exits the surgical site clean and dry
3. Unpin the drain from your undergarment or shirt
4. Open the stopper at the end of the bulb to release suction
5. Look at the bulb to measure the fluid
6. Turn the bulb upside down, careful not to tug on the tubing, and empty the drainage into the toilet
7. Squeeze the empty bulb to reactivate the suction
8. While you are squeezing the bulb, replace the stopper at the end of the bulb
9. Securely pin the bulb to your undergarment or shirt
10. Record the drain output on sheet provided
11. Wash your hands
12. You will need to periodically “strip” the drain as directed to minimize clot formation and maintain drain patency.



S: Instructions How to Care for your drain rev rf 02/21

Patient Name _____ Date of Surgery _____

Please record the amount of drainage output in 24 hours for each drain

[illegible]

S: Instructions How to Care for your drain rev. rf 02/21