DRAINAGE RECORD

DATE	AMOUNT

Other questions you may have:

- Why am I so tired?
- How much pain should I expect?
- How soon can I do exercises?
- What activities should I avoid?
- Can I shower?
- How long will I need a dressing?

You can direct these questions to:

- Your Doctor
- Your Hospital Nurse
- Your Nurse
- Physiotherapist
- Nutritionist

Home Health

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Caring For Your Surgical Drain



Home Health



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Now that you are home from the hospital you may have questions about your drain:

WHERE does the tube go and WHY?

 The tube lies beneath your skin. It removes fluid that may collect along your incision.
 You may have one or two tubes sutured in place.

WHAT is the fluid in the tube?

- It is your body fluid and it may be straw, red or dark red in colour.
- You can expect the amount to decrease over time. Check the container 2 (two) times a day. Notify Home Nursing Care or your doctor if more than one cup is collected.

HOW do I manage the drain?

- To empty the drain: Wash your hands.
 Open the plug, tilt and drain contents into a small measuring cup. Empty it in the morning and at bedtime. Wash your hands again.
- To restart the suction after emptying: squeeze the bulb/container and insert the plug at the same time. When the hemovac or mini snyder is closed and pressed flat there is gentle suction removing any fluid under your incision.

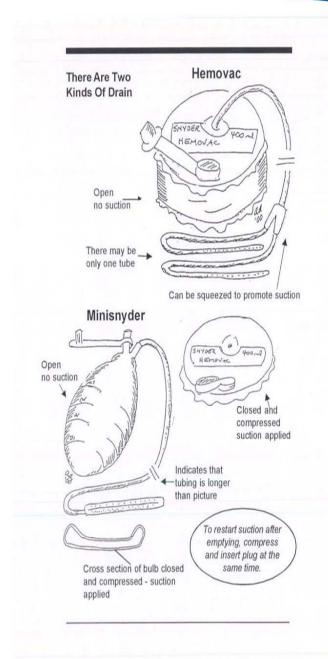
IF it stops working you may see:

- Leaking around the dressing
- Little or no fluid in the drain

WHAT to do: CHECK:

- Are there kinks in the tubing?
- Is the drain closed and pressed flat? If not, restart suction.
- Gently squeeze the tubing between your thumb and index finger several times to attempt to clear the tubing.

Your nurse will go over your drain care and answer other questions you may have



Questions/Notes