Instructions for Central Line Placement for Dialysis Access

You have had a Central Line placed for temporary dialysis access. Dialysis through this line is usually temporary until a surgical graft or shunt can be created.

Following your procedure:

- You may feel some discomfort after the local anesthetic wears off. Your discomfort should gradually improve over the next several days.
- You may resume your usual diet after the procedure. Avoid alcoholic beverages for 24 hours after the procedure.
- Rest for the remainder of the day and avoid any heavy lifting (more than 10 pounds). Do not operate heavy machinery, drive, or make legal decisions for the first 24 hours after the procedure if you were given sedatives or other medications to help you relax.
- Keep the initial dressing on for 24 hours.
- Keep the skin around the insertion site dry. You may take showers after 24 hours. If the area does get wet, dry the skin completely. Do not submerge your dialysis catheter under water, (i.e. bath/hot tub).

Contact your caregiver if:

- You develop any signs of infection around the insertion site (redness, swelling, increased pain, bleeding, or unusual drainage).
- You develop an unexplained fever or chills.
- You have any other questions or concerns related to your procedure or the care of your central line.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- You develop lightheadedness, dizziness or have any fainting episodes.
- You develop shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- You develop any other signs of allergic reaction to medications such as hives, itching, or nausea and vomiting.
- Oozing, bleeding or a lump appears at the insertion site.

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