Catheter Replacement, Suprapubic

A suprapubic *catheter* (a long, narrow, hollow tube) drains urine from your bladder, because you cannot empty your bladder normally. Your catheter needs to be replaced. Replacement of a suprapubic catheter is usually a very minor procedure. However, the following are some guidelines to help you if you do have problems.

AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- Be sure you understand how to care for the catheter site and change any bandages.
- Be sure you understand how to use and clean the drainage bags.
- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Make sure to keep the drainage bag emptied and lower than your catheter so that unclean urine will not flow back into your bladder. This could contribute to a urinary tract infection.
- Only take over-the-counter or prescription medicines for pain, discomfort or fever as directed by your caregiver.

HOME CARE INSTRUCTIONS

- If medicines are prescribed, take them as directed.
- Clean and dress the catheter site as directed.
- Clean the drainage bags as directed.
- Keep your follow up appointments for catheter changes.

SEEK MEDICAL CARE IF:

- Your urine in the bag changes color or develops a bad smell
- The catheter site becomes red or irritated.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- You are not passing urine at all.
- You develop severe belly pain.
- You develop chills or fever.
- You develop bleeding around the tube.
- Your new catheter does not seem to be draining properly, and you are starting to feel uncomfortable.

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