

# Legacy Medical Group

## Care of your Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter

### Dressing

- Do not remove dressing
- Do not use scissors on the dressing for any reason.
- Keep it dry and in place for the first 7 days. No showers or baths for two weeks.
- At seven days, you will go to your home training unit for sterile catheter care and have the catheter flushed to make sure it is working. A dressing will be reapplied and left undisturbed for another seven days.
- At 14 to 21 days, you will return to your home training unit. If there are sutures or staples, they will be removed. You will then be taught how to take care of your catheter in the shower and will be given the supplies to do so.
- You will be given more specific information explaining your training schedule by the staff from your training unit. They will contact you directly.

### Fever

- For a fever greater than 100 degrees call your surgeon **\*\*see note below\*\***

### Bleeding

- A small amount of blood on your dressing is of no concern and should be controlled by several gauze pads and pressure. Call your home training unit to have the dressing sterilely changed.
- If bleeding continues or you are unable to control it, call your surgeon **\*\*see note below\*\***

### Pain

- There will be some tenderness at first.
- Call your surgeon if pain is severe or not controlled by pain medications **\*\*see note below\*\***



**Constipation**

- Having surgery and using pain medications can cause constipation.
- This can cause problems with catheter functioning.
- Should be treated with stool softeners: Metamucil, Konsyl, Colace, etc or two tablespoons of Lactulose.

**Lifting**

- Limit lifting to less than 5-10 lbs. for two weeks. Limit strenuous activities for at least six weeks.

**\*\*When notifying your surgeon, call 503.413.5725. If after regular business hours, you will be directed to the exchange. Please ask for the Dialysis Surgeon on call.\*\***