

Discharge Instructions: Gastrostomy Tube Placement

What to Expect

- Slight pain/soreness at the site
- Slight bloody drainage
- Low-grade fever of 99°-100°F (32.7°- 37.7°C)
- **If the G-tube falls out, please seek immediate attention**

You Can...

- restart your medications right away (hold blood thinners for 24 hours, this includes aspirin and ibuprofen/Advil®)
- take acetaminophen (Tylenol®) or other prescribed pain medications
- change the dressing 24 hours after the procedure
- shower every day and wash around the tube with soap and water. Dry the site thoroughly and apply a new, dry sterile dressing
- start using the tube after 24 hours if your pain is mild and is only at the insertion site
- refer to you “Care of Your G/G-J Tube” brochure for instructions on preventing clogs and feedings

Restrictions

Do Not...

- drive or drink alcohol for 24 hours
- perform strenuous activity, or lift anything heavier than 10 pounds for 24 hours
- take a tube bath for 3 weeks after your tube has been placed

Call Us If ...

- you have any signs of infection at the tube insertion site after the first few days such as redness, pain (5 or higher on a scale of 1 to 10 and not relieved by pain medications) or pus-like drainage
- you have a fever of **100.4°F (38° C)** or higher with chills for more than 24 hours
- excessive bleeding or leakage at the tube site
- your tube is clogged and you can't clear the clog
- you have nausea, gas, bloating, diarrhea, or constipation that lasts more than 24 hours
- you have vomiting that lasts more than 8 hours
- you have widespread pain over your entire abdominal (belly) area

Special Procedures: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Phone: 716-845-5992

After hours, call Roswell Park main number (24/7): 716-845-2300

If you feel you are in a life-threatening situation (chest pain, difficulty breathing, heavy bleeding), call 911 or go to the nearest hospital emergency department.