

Laparoscopic Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter

You and your doctor have determined you would benefit from placement of a peritoneal catheter. This procedure involves placing a catheter (tubing) directly into the abdomen. The catheter is made of a soft, flexible material which can be concealed under clothing. Peritoneal dialysis involves infusing dialysis fluid through the catheter. The lining of the abdomen acts as a membrane to pass excess fluid and waste products into the dialysis fluid. The fluid is held within the abdomen for a prescribed amount of time and then is allowed to drain out of the catheter. Peritoneal dialysis is performed at home.

Peritoneal dialysis catheters are placed under laparoscopic guidance by your surgeon. Laparoscopy, in which a camera is placed into the abdomen, allows the surgeon to view the structures in the abdomen to precisely place the catheter into the pelvis and to free up any scar tissue that may have formed from any prior surgery or infection in the abdomen.

Location

Laparoscopic peritoneal dialysis catheter placements are performed in the hospital setting.

Before Surgery

1. You must take all prescribed medications as directed.
2. Nothing is to be taken by mouth starting at midnight (including water and coffee), the night before surgery, except prescribed medications with sips of water. We will inform you of the medications that should not be taken before surgery and when to stop them. Be sure our office is aware if you are taking any blood thinners.
3. Take stool softeners as directed by your surgeon.

Day of Surgery

1. Fistulograms are typically an outpatient procedure; you will go home the same day.
2. You will need a driver to and from the procedure. You cannot be picked up by a ride-share service such as Uber or Lyft. This is because you may still be a little sleepy when you leave and you should be with someone you know.

3. There are many factors, beyond the control of your surgeon and staff, that determine when your procedure actually starts. This may lead to delays. Please be patient with the staff as they try to get your procedure started as soon as possible.
4. The operation typically takes about one hour and is performed on an outpatient basis. Patients will require general anesthesia for the procedure. Patients can begin to use their new dialysis catheter as soon as two weeks after the procedure.
5. After the procedure is completed, the surgeon will come out and discuss how the case went. It is important that your loved one be available in person or by phone so that the surgeon can share this information.

After Surgery

1. You must not be alone for the remainder of the day of your procedure and it is best to have someone with you overnight as well.
2. You may resume your normal diet and medications. If you are taking blood thinning medications (such as Coumadin, Xarelto, Eliquis, or Pradaxa) you may resume the day after your procedure.
3. Mild pain and discomfort after surgery are common. It's normal to feel tired, experience a change in bowel pattern, have leakage from incision sites, or experience a loss of appetite following surgery. These symptoms should gradually resolve within a few days.
4. Take Colace (stool softener) 3 times per day while you are taking any narcotic pain medication. This can be purchased over the counter.
5. You should have an office visit with your surgeon at Vascular Specialists of Central Florida 2-3 weeks after your surgery.
6. Do not remove the dressing over your catheter. This will be done by the dialysis nurses.
7. Your nephrologist (kidney doctor) will arrange your first catheter flush and catheter care teaching with the peritoneal dialysis nursing team. In general, your catheter should be flushed at least every 7-10 days, or more frequently if possible, to maintain good functionality of the system.
8. Do not shower or go swimming until you have seen your peritoneal dialysis nurse and discussed the protocol with him/her.
9. No heavy lifting (anything over 10 pounds) for 3-4 weeks following surgery.

Contact Us:

1. If you experience redness, swelling, increased abdominal pain, notice a foul smell or pus at the incision site, please call our office.
2. Our office phone number is 407.648.4323. Our office is open 8AM to 5PM Monday through Friday. After hours you will be connected with one of our physicians through the answering service.
3. Further contact details are below and additional information can be found at www.arteryandvein.com.



VascularSpecialists

of Central Florida, Inc.

It is important to us that our patients are able to easily contact us to schedule appointments or discuss any questions/concerns.

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GENERAL QUESTIONS CAN BE EMAILED TO: patients@arteryandvein.com