

Care of your Biliary Drain at Home

Patient Information Leaflet

Liverpool University Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust

Digestive Diseases Unit/Gastroenterology
Lower Lane
Liverpool L9 7AL
Tel:0151-525-5980

Introduction

You have had a biliary drainage catheter inserted as you have a blockage, injury or are awaiting surgery to your bile duct. This will be left in place until your doctor feels it can be removed or replaced.

General care of drain at home

- A little pain is normal the first week.
- Do not pull on the catheter.
- Wear loose clothes.
- Secure catheter to your clothes using a safety pin or tuck catheter into your clothes.
- Empty your drainage bag before it is full to prevent it from pulling out.
- Record the amount of bile you are emptying
- You should not swim, take a bath, or sit in a hot tub – submerging entry site in water may cause infection
- You may sponge bathe or shower. It is OK to get the biliary tube site wet.

Some drains require flushing daily with saline; this will be done by your district nurse.

Cleaning the skin around your biliary tube

- Wash your hands.
- Remove your old dressing (if using).
- Clean the skin around your catheter every one to two days with mild soap and water.
- You may use a cotton swab, gauze, or wash gently while showering.
- Apply a new dressing (if using).
- Wash your hands.

When should I call for help?

- If you develop redness, soreness, swelling, or pus at insertion site.
- if pain worsens or persists
- If drain stops draining
- If you feel pain while flushing your tube.
- If your tube begins to leak at the insertion site
- If your tube becomes dislodged, or sutures fall out try to secure tubing to prevent it falling out and seek help.
- If your tube falls out, **don't panic**, cover with dressing and seek medical advice.
- If you develop chills and/or a temperature > 38.5 °C (If tube capped attach drainage bag) call the number(s) below.
- If you develop severe or uncontrolled pain please contact your GP or go to A&E.

Contact Numbers

HPB Clinical Nurse Specialist

Opening Times:

Monday to Friday - 09.00 till 17.00

Telephone: 0151 529 4803

Out of Hours

Seek advice from district nurses

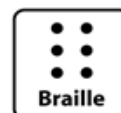
Contact GP

Contact:

Ward 10: 0151 529 3526

Or

Ward 11: 0151 529 3510



If you require a special edition of this leaflet

This leaflet is available in large print, Braille, on audio tape or disk and in other languages on request. Please contact:

Tel No: 0151 529 2906

Email: interpretationandtranslation@aintree.nhs.uk