

## *Nephrostomy Tube*

### WHY DO I NEED THE TUBE

- Your doctor has referred you to Interventional Radiology for placement of this tube.
- The tube was placed to drain the urine from your kidney.
- You may have a kidney problem or an obstruction of your ureter.
- A stent may also be placed in your ureter to relieve the obstruction. In this case the nephrostomy tube may be removed in the next few days.

### HOW LONG WILL I HAVE THE TUBE

- The tube will stay in until the collection of fluid is completely drained. That can be from two (2) weeks to several weeks.
- Your referring doctor will arrange follow-up care. Follow up imaging may be required before your tube is removed.

### SEDATION

The sedation you received for your procedure is still in your system. Therefore, we would like you to take it easy the rest of the day and evening. Do not drive and avoid drinking alcohol.)

### CARE AFTER THE PROCEDURE

- The tube will be attached to a bag outside your body to collect the fluid.
- The tube is sutured in place. Do not let the bag hang or it may pull the tube out.
- Avoid strenuous activity while the tube is in place.
- Do **NOT** take a bath or go swimming while the tube is in place.
- You will have a bandage covering the insertion site of the tube.  
**Change this bandage as needed to keep the area clean and dry**  
**You can clean around the tube with antibacterial soap (example, Dial or Safeguard) and water**  
**Apply a clean gauze pad over the tube insertion site and tape securely**  
**To shower, cover tube and dressing with plastic wrap two (2) days after the tube placement**
- The tube(s) may require flushing.  
**If this is required, a nurse, prior to discharge, will show you**  
**And provide supplies**
- If you experience discomfort from the tube, you may take Tylenol or Advil, unless you are restricted from these medications.
- Check with your doctor.

### WHEN TO CALL YOUR DOCTOR

- Inability to flush or the tube stops draining
- If the tube falls out

If you experience any of these problems, please call your Nephrologist or Urologist, or call the Interventional Radiology Department at 503-413-7127 and ask them to page the Interventional Radiologist on-call. The Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital Emergency Room is also available 24 hours a day at 503-413-7260.