



Renal Access Clinic of Houston
Caring for Your Dialysis Lifeline

POST-Operative Instructions for Catheter Removals

1. The day your catheter is removed, avoid any strenuous activity that could cause pressure and possibly lead to bleeding (i.e. heavy lifting, exercising)
2. You may experience slight redness, swelling at the exit site and or soreness.
3. Contact your kidney Dr. if you experience the following:
 - excessive bleeding
 - excessive swelling, heat or pain at the exit site
 - chills or fever over 101 degrees occurring within 24 hours of procedure.
4. Do not lay down flat for 4 hours following the removal of the catheter. Sit up at least at a 45 degree angle.
5. Watch for bleeding from the exit site. If the site begins to bleed, apply constant pressure for at least 30 minutes to 1 hour until bleeding stops. If you are unable to get the site to stop bleeding, call 911 and go to nearest emergency department.
6. You can take a shower 24 hours following catheter removal unless otherwise indicated. Be sure to have the shower to your back for the first 2 days showering and you should not take a full bath for 5 days.
7. During your shower, you can get the site wet and wash the exit site with anti-bacterial soap and pat dry. Apply Band-Aid for approximately 2-3 days until a scab forms and then allow to heal naturally.

We know you have a choice in your healthcare and appreciate the opportunity to be a part of that process. All of us at the Renal Access Clinic of Houston thank you and wish you well.

Any Questions please do not hesitate to contact our Head Nurse at **713-838-2300**.

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