

Perma Cath (Permanent Catheter) Tube Insertion

Permanent Catheter Tube

A permanent catheter is an access device put into a main vein in your neck or collarbone area during surgery.

The catheter creates an access to your bloodstream. This access is used for kidney dialysis, for giving fluids, blood products or medicine, or for taking blood. It is also used for apheresis.

During The Surgery

A health care provider puts the catheter in during surgery. It is tunneled under your skin into a main vein in either your neck or collarbone. The catheter tip usually ends in the right arm.

- The area is shaved and scrubbed with an antiseptic soap.
- A local anesthetic is used to numb the area.
- Once the area is numb, the health care provider makes a cut in the neck or collarbone area to find a vein.
- Once the vein is found, the catheter is inserted.
- The health care provider closes the surgery site and puts a bandage on it.

Your health care provider will talk to you about any possible complications.

After The Surgery

- During your dialysis, a nurse will take care of cleaning the catheter. The site will be covered with a see-through bandage.

Catheter Care

It is important to take care of your temporary dialysis access until your permanent fistula is mature and ready to use for dialysis.

Please remember the following guidelines:

- Keep the dressing that covers your catheter in place and do not remove it. If the dressing does come off, call your dialysis unit or nephrologist for advice.
- If the catheter is accidentally pulled out from its original position, but still in the skin and not bleeding:
 - Cover the area with a bandage.
 - Call the dialysis unit right away.
- If the catheter is pulled out all the way and you start bleeding:
 - Cover the area with a clean towel.
 - Apply pressure to the area.
 - Go to an urgent care center or hospital Emergency Department.

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- Ask your health care provider or dialysis nurse if it is OK to take a shower while you have the catheter.
 - You should cover the area with a piece of plastic wrap and tape to keep it dry during your shower.
 - After the shower, be sure to remove the plastic covering carefully so you do not tear off the original bandage.
 - Pat the area dry with a clean towel.
- Check the catheter area. Call your dialysis unit if you see redness or swelling.
- Follow up with your health care provider or nephrologist as instructed.