Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

PATIENT & CAREGIVER EDUCATION

Urgent Care Center and Symptom Care Clinic Nursing Discharge Instructions: Drains and Catheters

This information explains nursing discharge instructions for drains and catheters from the Urgent Care Center (UCC) or the Symptom Care Clinic (SCC).

Drains and Catheters

Review the patient education information your healthcare provider gave you.

Call your MSK healthcare team or go to the nearest emergency room if:

- The tube comes out.
- You have new pain or your pain gets worse.
- The area where the tube goes in looks different.
- The color or thickness of the drainage changes.
- There is any bad smell.
- You have a fever of 100.4°F (38°C) or higher.

- You have shaking, chills, or sweats.

Your care team may direct you to your regional Symptom Care Clinic (SCC) or the Urgent Care Center (UCC).

Follow up with your MSK healthcare team after discharge.

You can search for information on this topic and many others in MSK's Patient and Caregiver Education library at www.mskcc.org/pe

If you have questions or concerns, contact your healthcare provider. A member of your care team will answer Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Outside those hours, you can leave a message or talk with another MSK provider. There is always a doctor or nurse on call. If you're not sure how to reach your healthcare provider, call 212-639-2000.

For more resources, visit www.mskcc.org/pe to search our virtual library.

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