



Patient & Family Guide
2020

Care of Your Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter

Aussi disponible en français : *Prendre soin de
votre cathéter de dialyse péritonéale* (FF85-2098)

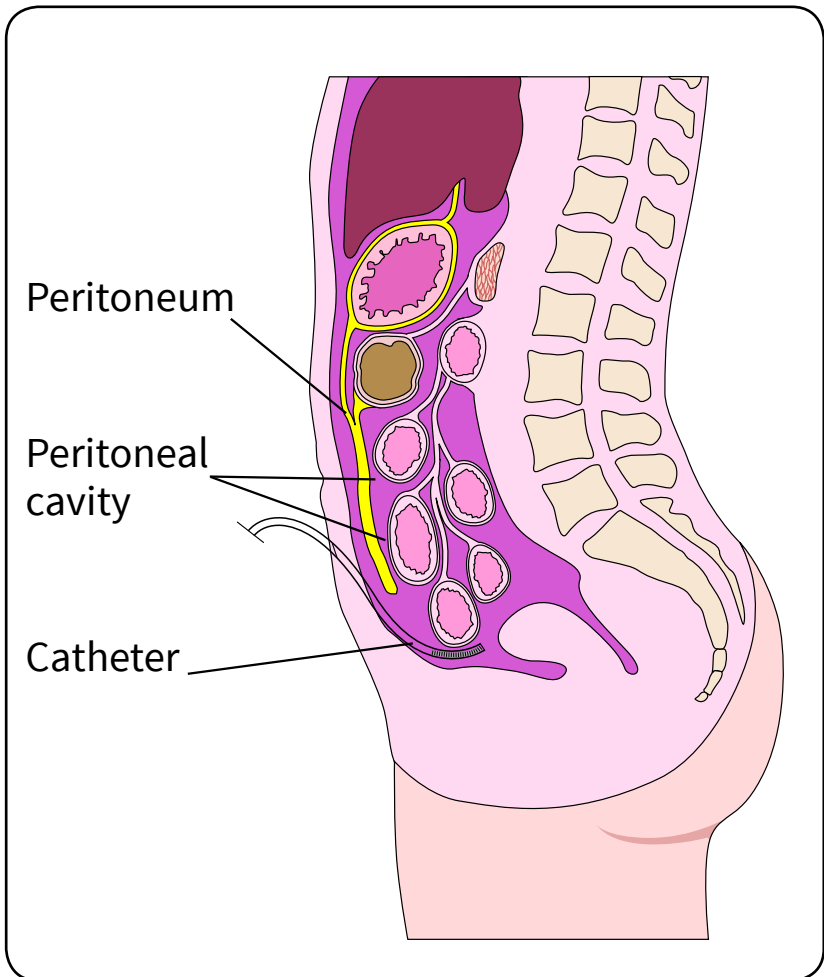


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Care of Your Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter

What is a peritoneal dialysis catheter?

A peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter is a small, flexible tube. It is put into your abdomen (tummy) by a surgeon in the operating room. It will be used for your dialysis.



Protecting your peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter

Care of your incision(cut)/exit site

- Your dressing will be left on for 7 days (1 week). This should help the PD catheter exit site to heal better.
- Once you have been discharged from the hospital, the VON or home care nurse will visit your home every 7 days to change your dressing.
- The VON/home care nurse or clinic nurse will remove your staples (or sutures) about 10 to 14 days after your surgery.
- Your dressing will be changed every 7 days for about 6 to 8 weeks. After this time, you may be taught the shower technique by your dialysis or clinic nurse.

What are your questions?

Please ask. We are here to help you.

Tips:

- Wash your hands before touching your dressing.
- Keep your dressing dry.
- Check your dressing each day to make sure it is dry and not falling off.
- Bend at the knees when picking something up.
- Hold your tummy when you cough.
- Call VON or home care if:
 - › your dressing falls off
 - › your dressing feels wet
 - › your incision/exit site is sore
 - › you have a fever, chills, or pain in your tummy
- Take your laxatives and stool softeners regularly to avoid constipation (not being able to poop).
- Be careful when you do strenuous (hard) activities (e.g., chop wood, shovel snow, vacuum floors, or scrub bathtubs).
- Do not shower, soak in a bathtub, or swim, until the home dialysis nurses say that it is OK.
- Do not wear tight clothing (e.g., belts, tight elastic waists, jeans).

- Do not lift anything over 20 lbs (e.g., heavy laundry, groceries, children).
- Do not overextend your reach (e.g., reach up into a high cupboard).
- Do not become constipated or strain when you have a bowel movement (poop).

Other instructions:

This pamphlet is just a guide. If you have questions, please talk to your health care provider. We are here to help you.

Looking for more health information?

Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: <http://library.nshealth.ca/PatientGuides>
Contact your local public library for books, videos, magazines, and other resources.

For more information, go to <http://library.novascotia.ca>

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time: call 811 or visit <https://811.novascotia.ca>

Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit <http://ns.211.ca>

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If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

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The information in this pamphlet is to be updated every 3 years or as needed.