

# Patient & Family Guide

2025

## How to do a Twin Bag™ Exchange

#### Important things to remember:

□ Masks

☐ Handwashing

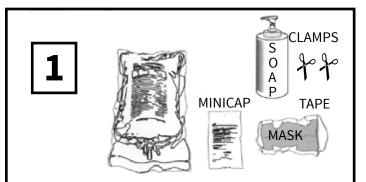
- Checking your supplies
- □ Connection points
- □ Checking the drained fluid
- Completing your exchange in a clean area with no clutter or drafts

Cũng có sẵn bằng tiếng Việt Also available in Vietnamese: VI85-2390

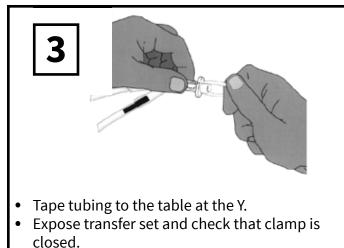
Также есть на русском языке Also available in Russian: RU85-2379

同时提供简体中文版 Also available in Simplified Chinese: CH85-2214

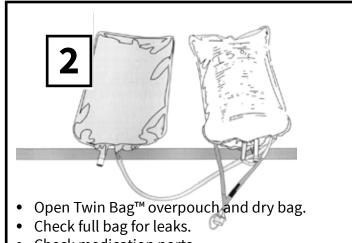




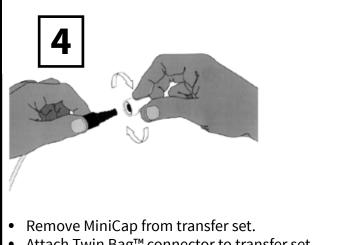
- Mask and wash hands.
- Gather supplies on a clean surface.
- Check Twin Bag<sup>™</sup> for: solution strength, bag size, expiry date, and calcium.
- Check MiniCap expiry date.



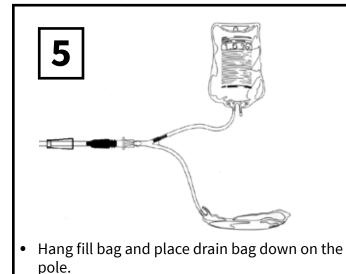
- Mask and wash hands with gel.
- Remove the pull ring.

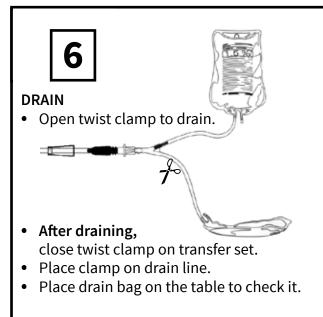


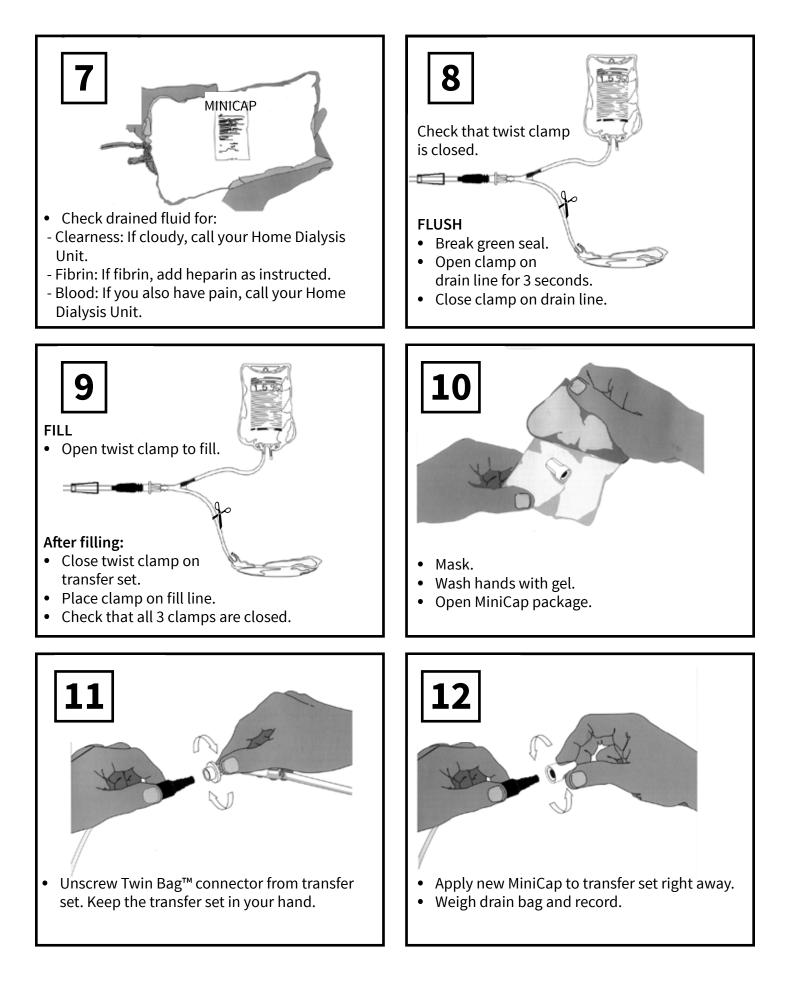
- Check medication ports.
- Check empty bag.
- Check pull ring, green seal, and Y area.



• Attach Twin Bag<sup>™</sup> connector to transfer set right away.







#### Drain problems - Twin Bag™

Problem/cause:	What to do:		
1. Twist clamp	<ul> <li>Check: is it open?</li> <li>Check under clamp for pinched tubing.</li> </ul>		
2. Kink in tubing	<ul><li>Check around dressing.</li><li>Check along drain line.</li><li>Check tape on pole.</li></ul>		
3. Fibrin	<ul> <li>Wrap tubing tightly around pencil and release. (Repeat.)</li> </ul>		
4. Constipation (not able to poop)	<ul> <li>Take laxatives as directed by your health care provider.</li> </ul>		
5. Body position	<ul> <li>Bend back and forth.</li> <li>Stand up or press on abdomen (stomach area).</li> <li>Cough.</li> <li>Make sure the drain bag is lower than your abdomen.</li> </ul>		
6. Air lock	<ul> <li>Wrap tubing tightly around a pencil and release. (Repeat.)</li> </ul>		
7. Defective bag	Change to a new set.		

#### Fill problems - Twin Bag™

Problem/cause:	What to do:		
1. Twist clamp	<ul> <li>Check: is it open?</li> <li>Check under clamp for pinched tubing.</li> </ul>		
2. Kink in tubing	<ul><li>Check around dressing.</li><li>Check along tubing.</li></ul>		
3. Green seal not broken	<ul> <li>Make sure green seal is broken. You should be able to see a space where you cracked the green seal.</li> </ul>		
4. Body position	<ul> <li>Bend back and forth.</li> <li>Stand up or press on abdomen.</li> <li>Cough.</li> </ul>		
5. Fibrin	<ul> <li>Wrap tubing tightly around a pencil and release. (Repeat.)</li> <li>Inject heparin in fill bag.</li> <li>Squeeze bag.</li> <li>Raise pole.</li> </ul>		
6. Constipation	<ul> <li>Take laxatives as directed by your health care provider.</li> </ul>		
7. Defective bag	Change to a new set.		

### Mechanical problems - Twin Bag™

Problem/cause:	What to do:
1. Transfer set contaminated with twist clamp closed	<ul> <li>Put MiniCap on for 5 minutes, then remove and put on another new MiniCap.</li> </ul>
<ol> <li>Did not close twist clamp on transfer set when disconnecting from Twin Bag™</li> </ol>	<ul> <li>Close twist clamp on transfer set, put MiniCap on for 5 minutes, then remove and put on another MiniCap.</li> <li>Call the Home Dialysis Unit <b>RIGHT AWAY</b>. <b>This</b> <b>is a dialysis emergency.</b> There is a nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
3. Hole in drain bag	<ul> <li>Close twist clamp on transfer set, then clamp drain line. Put MiniCap on transfer set.</li> <li>Take out new Twin Bag<sup>™</sup> system and continue with dialysis exchange.</li> </ul>
4. Hole in fill bag	<ul> <li>Clamp twist clamp on transfer set.</li> <li>Clamp fill line.</li> <li>Put MiniCap on transfer set.</li> <li>Call the Home Dialysis Unit RIGHT AWAY. This is a dialysis emergency. There is a nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>5. Your tubing separates from your catheter:</li> <li>Connection points are not tight</li> <li>There is pulling on catheter and tubing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use emergency kit. Put catheter clamp on your catheter next to the exit site.</li> <li>Put cap on end of your catheter.</li> <li>Call the Home Dialysis Unit RIGHT AWAY. This is a dialysis emergency. There is a nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
6. Needle goes through port of new bag	<ul> <li>Change to new Twin Bag<sup>™</sup> set and new syringe and needle.</li> <li>Draw up new medication.</li> </ul>
7. New fluid goes in drained bag	<ul> <li>Do another bag exchange.</li> </ul>
8. Contaminated Twin Bag™ connector	<ul><li>Throw away the set.</li><li>Check and prepare a new set.</li></ul>

Notes:		

This pamphlet is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice or professional judgment of a health care provider. The information may not apply to all situations. If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

> Find this pamphlet and all our patient resources here: https://library.nshealth.ca/Patients-Guides

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

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