INTRODUCTION

The kidneys make urine that drains down a tube called the ureter. If the ureter is narrowed or blocked, the urine cannot drain away and puts pressure on the kidney. A nephrostomy tube is a thin catheter placed directly into the kidney to drain urine. This allows the kidney to function normally. Urine drains directly into a drainage bag.

HOW TO CARE FOR A NEPHROSTOMY TUBE

It is extremely important to keep the nephrostomy tube site clean. There will be a dressing in place which you must not remove as you risk dislodging the tube.

- Wash your hands well with soap and water
- Do not get the dressing wet. NO BATH OR SHOWER.
- Reinforce the original dressing with tape as required as demonstrated by your nurse.
- Empty the drainage bag as needed, don’t allow it to get too full as the weight of the bag could dislodge the tube.
- Keep the bag secured to the baby grow or use a waist strap on an older child to prevent any tension on the tube.
- Change the drainage bag once every week:
- Clean the connection with an disinfection wipe
- Attach the new bag “REMEMBER TO CLOSE THE TAP”

PLEASE CONTACT OR ATTEND LOCAL HOSPITAL/OLCHC FOR ADVICE REGARDING THE FOLLOWING SIGNS / SYMPTOMS

- KIDNEY INFECTION- if your child is unwell/nausea or vomiting / off feeds / temperature / cloudy / smelly urine / blood in urine.
- PAIN - If your child is in considerable pain that is not settling.
- WOUND INFECTION - Some ooze on the dressing is normal. Excessive foul smelling ooze may indicate site infection. The site may look red/swollen.
- DRAINAGE - The catheter falls out or stops draining.

For more information on Nephrostomy please contact Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin.

CONTACT DETAILS

TEAM ____________________________ CONTACT NUMBER ____________________________

WARD ____________________________ CONTACT NUMBER ____________________________

UROLOGY CNSp

Phone 01 409 6100

Bleep 8686 - Bleep 8687 (Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm)

Out of hours - Contact your local emergency department

Remember: Ask your nurse if you are unsure about anything about your child’s care.

Additional instructions

Drainage Bag Ref: E-90000 Plusbag McEvoy Medical

Developed by Urology CNS

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