INFORMATION LEAFLETS FOR PARENTS / CARERS OF A CHILD
PERFORMING BLADDER FLUSH AFTER RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY
Mitrofanoff with a Suprapubic Catheter (SPC)

INTRODUCTION

- Bladder flushes are a lifelong requirement after reconstructive bladder surgery to remove mucus. Mucus can cause infection and stones to form if not removed.
- On discharge after surgery you will flush a small volume GENTLY into the catheter 3 times per day.
- When everything is well healed you will be shown how to flush with a little speed and aspirate the catheter if required (Pull back the plunger to remove mucus from the bladder).
- Eventually flushing will be required on a daily basis.
- Please note that mucus production is different for everyone and therefore the flushing routine is tailored to suit your child’s needs.
- Explain that education/support will be given to parents to perform this procedure before your child is discharged home, encourage them to participate and ask questions etc…

GUIDE TO FLUSHING A MITROFANOFF / SPC

- Equipment required; Disinfectant/Saline/Catheter tipped 50ml syringe/clean Container.
- This is a clean technique. Wash hands using soap and warm water.
- Empty leg bags before flushing.
- Prepare the flush by pouring saline into the container, draw up ____ mls of solution into the syringe ensuring there are no air bubbles.
- Open the disinfection wipe, clean the catheter connection and wrap it around the connection, then disconnect the Mitrofanoff catheter from the drainage bag. Kink the Mitrofanoff catheter to stop urine flow, Wrap the top of the leg bag in the same wipe to keep it clean.
- Attach syringe to Mitrofanoff and commence slow gentle flushing. Leave the syringe in the catheter and observe for flush returning into the suprapubic catheter bag.
- Reconnect the Mitrofanoff bag. Discard disinfection wipe, wash your hands.
- Wash your equipment. The syringe should be dismantled and both parts washed in hot soapy water and air dried thoroughly. The syringe and saline container are stored dry in a zip lock bag or a storage container with a lid. How many times can they re-use the syringe?
SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS TO OBSERVE CLOSELY FOR

- Sensation of fullness or need to pass urine.
- Resistance felt when flushing.
- Leaking noted around catheter sites.
- Pain
- STOP THE FLUSH and contact the hospital for further advice, if any of these happen?

These indicate a full bladder / blocked catheter. Stop the flush and contact the hospital for further advice.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- If the flush does not come out of the SPC, repeat the process through the SPC to ensure fluid can drain from the catheter.
- If there is a lot of mucus present you can repeat the flush a second time. This general rule is safe provided what goes in comes out.

For more information on Flushing Catheters please contact Urology CNSp in Our Lady’s Children’s Hospital, Crumlin, Dublin.

CONTACT DETAILS:

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

Additional instructions