WHEN SHOULD I SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION?

- The drainage significantly increases (more than 100ml from the previous day) or stops suddenly.
- The area of your skin around the drain becomes red, swollen or painful.
- The fluid coming out of drain changes (cloudy, bright red, foul smelling or pus like).
- You have a raised temperature of more than 38.5 degree Celsius.
- The stitches around the drain loosen / break or if the drain slips out
- If the drain slips out after office hours, place a clean gauze over the drain site and plaster it. Please contact the clinic for assistance.

THIS LEAFLET EXPLAINS ABOUT GOING HOME WITH A REDIVAC DRAIN AFTER SURGERY. IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE SPEAK TO THE NURSE OR DOCTOR DISCHARGING YOU.

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REDIVAC DRAIN

HOME CARE GUIDE



WHAT IS A SURGICAL DRAIN?

A surgical drain is a thin plastic (PVC) tube that is placed in the space (cavity) created when tissue is removed during surgery. Its purpose is to remove the fluid from your body that collects after an operation.

WHY DO I NEED A DRAIN?

Following surgery to the breast, This helps to prevent a build-up of fluid (seroma) from forming and causing swelling and discomfort



An active (vacuum) drain uses gentle suction. When the suction in the bottle is active, the green vacuum indicator on the top is in a downward (pressed) position.

No suction 'devacced'



Vacuum intact



CARE OF THE REDIVAC DRAIN AT HOME

- Ensure both clamps on the drainage tubing are always kept open to allow for drainage.
- Ensure that there is vacuum present in the bottle by checking that the nozzle is compressed.
- If the nozzle is raised, please call clinic to change bottle.

DRAIN CHARTING

- Read the amount of drainage daily at 9 am at eye level and indicate with a line to mark on the white sticky label.
- Record the drainage amount in the Drainage Chart provided.

✓ Once the drainage in the bottle reaches 350ml, please return to clinic to have the bottle changed.



If it is weekend, return to any 24 hour clinic. But again, there is no urgency to rush down during middle of the night.

- Colour of the drainage will turn from red to light pink then light yellow
- Make sure the drainage tubing is not kinked or bent, because this can prevent the drain from working properly.
- The drainage bottle should be maintained at a level below your operated wound.
- Inform the clinic of the previous days drainage over 24 hours,

