

ASCENSION ST VINCENTS / OPTIMAL IMAGING BREAST DRAINAGE AFTERCARE INSTRUCTIONS

Who Performed Your Procedure:

Aftercare Instructions:

- Bandaging will be applied over the procedure site. Skin glue may also be applied to the site. You may remove the bandage 24 hours after your procedure, however, allow the skin glue to flake off on its own (do not pick it off). You may shower and allow water to flow over the site 24 hours after your procedure, however, do not submerge the site in water (bath, pool, hot tub or ocean) until the site has healed.
- If a drainage catheter was left in place, change the bandaging as needed and after it gets wet. You may shower and allow water to flow over the site 24 hours after your procedure, however, do not submerge the site in water (bath, pool, hot tub or ocean) until the drain has been removed and the site has healed.
- Do not apply lotion/ointment to the site until it has healed unless instructed to do so.
- If you were provided with an ice pack, apply it to the procedure site periodically for 20-30 minutes after your procedure.
- Avoid strenuous physical activity for at least 24 hours after your procedure then increase your activity level as tolerated.
- Wear a form-fitting bra for at least 48 hours after your procedure to help decrease breast movement, pain and bruising.
- If a drainage catheter was left in place, record the volume of fluid draining from the catheter (output) every 24 hours. Contact your ordering clinician once the output drops to less than 10 mL per 24 hours to inquire about catheter removal. You may receive flushing instructions to inject 10 mL of sterile saline into the catheter every 12 hours then reconnect the catheter to the drainage bag/bulb.
- It is normal to experience discomfort / mild pain and bruising after your procedure. You can take acetaminophen (Tylenol) for the first 6-8 hours after your procedure. After 6-8 hours, you may switch to aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin) or naproxen (Aleve) if acetaminophen is not adequately decreasing your pain. It is safe to take aspirin, ibuprofen or naproxen within 6-8 hours after your procedure, however you may experience more bruising if you do so.
- Contact Radiology or your ordering clinician if you have any concerns or experience any of the following after your procedure: continued bleeding, significant swelling, severe pain not responding to over-the-counter medications or signs of possible infection (significant redness or drainage of pus from the site, severe pain, fever or chills) or drainage from around the catheter.
- Weekdays 8 am to 5 pm call 308-5488 (Riverside), 296-4277 (Southside), 602-1219 (Clay), 691-1286 (St Johns) or Optimal Imaging (450-6960). Weekdays 5 pm to 10 pm or weekends 6 am to 10 pm call 308-8401. If outside of these hours, call the hospital operator at 308-7300 and ask to speak to the Interventional Radiologist on call.

How Do I Receive Procedure Results?

- Many but not all drainage procedures produce samples which are sent for laboratory analysis. If a sample was sent, a Radiologist will contact you by telephone to discuss the results. Results can take up to 5 days to become available. The clinician who ordered the procedure may contact you with results prior to a Radiologist contacting you.