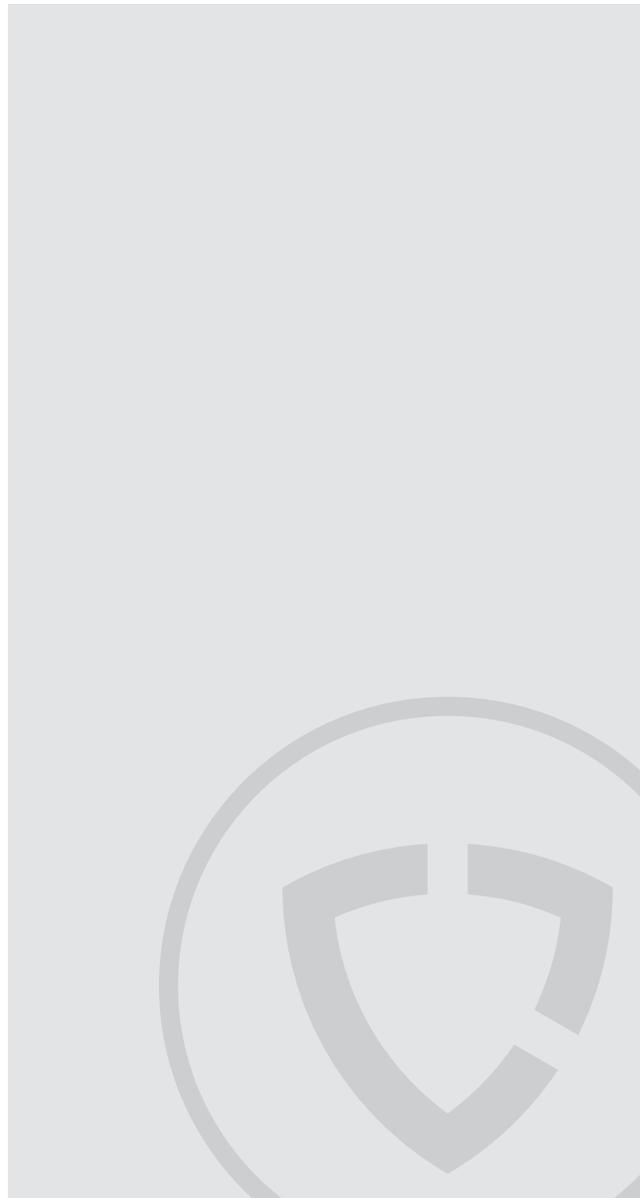


PleurX®—Innovative drainage solutions for compassionate care

The PleurX® system has been designed to allow you to manage your fluid accumulation in the comfort of your home. While you have been trained by your doctor or nurse in the correct way to use the items in the PleurX® drainage kit, we realize you may still have some questions.

This brochure should provide you with answers to the most common questions about using the PleurX® drainage kit. These questions and answers are also available in the *Directions for Use* included with the PleurX® drainage kit. If you have any problems or additional questions about draining fluid, please refer to the Directions for Use or contact your doctor or nurse. Information is also available for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week online at carefusion.com/pleurx.

Website: carefusion.com/pleurx
Email: pleurx-info@carefusion.com



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CareFusion
Waukegan, IL

carefusion.com



Frequently asked questions

PleurX® drainage kit



How often should I drain the fluid from my chest or abdomen?

You should drain fluid as directed by your doctor, usually every one to two days. Consult your doctor before changing the frequency of your drainage.

Chest: If you keep your chest fairly free of fluid, you will be less likely to feel short of breath. You will also be more likely to permanently stop the fluid from building up, so the catheter can be removed.

Abdomen: If you drain regularly, you will probably have less abdominal pressure and discomfort.

Chest: What if I still feel short of breath after I finish draining?

You should not drain more than 1000mL per drainage. Therefore, you should only use one 1000mL bottle or two 500mL bottles. Notify your doctor if you continue to feel short of breath after draining 1000mL of fluid.

How long will the catheter be in my chest or abdomen?

Chest: The catheter will be in your chest until fluid stops draining. The amount of time will vary from patient to patient, anywhere from a few weeks to several months.

Abdomen: Fluid buildup is not likely to stop in the abdomen. You may keep the catheter in place as long as you need it.

When will I know the catheter can be removed?

When you try to drain fluid three times in a row and each time less than 50mL drains into the bottle, you should see your doctor to find out if the catheter can be removed or if it needs to be replaced.

What should I do if the color of the fluid changes from the usual color?

Any change in the appearance of the fluid should be reported to your doctor.



What does it mean if the volume of my drainage is smaller or if I do not drain any fluid?

There are three reasons this might occur.

1. If you drained normally the last time and your drainage suddenly stops or you cannot drain at all this time, some debris in the fluid may have clogged the line to the bottle. Gently squeeze the catheter where it joins the catheter valve, then gently squeeze the drainage line near the access tip. If drainage does not begin, follow the instructions for changing to another bottle. If the drainage does not start when you use a second bottle, call your doctor. There may be another reason you are not draining.
2. If your drainage is a little less each time you drain and the current amount of drainage is much smaller than previously, the fluid may be drying up and it may be time for the catheter to be removed. Call your doctor.
3. If the fluid goes away suddenly or if the amount of drainage gradually declines, it is possible that the catheter may be clogged. Call your doctor.

How will I know if my catheter is infected?

You should contact your doctor immediately if you believe your catheter is infected. Redness (erythema), warmth to touch, swelling (edema), fever or drainage from around the catheter site may indicate your catheter is infected. Some redness after insertion is expected but should not persist.

Can I take a shower with the catheter in place?

Yes, if the self-adhesive dressing from the drainage kit is securely attached to your skin, you can get wet. The self-adhesive dressing is designed to keep fluid out. Be sure the dressing is completely and securely attached and the catheter and gauze pads are all contained underneath it. If the gauze becomes wet when showering, remove the dressing immediately, clean and dry the area and apply a new dressing as instructed in the *Directions for Use* that came with the PleurX® drainage kit.

What happens if the PleurX® catheter is accidentally pulled out?

The PleurX® Catheter has a polyester cuff that is normally under the skin where the catheter is inserted. This cuff and the sutures located where the catheter exits your body help keep the catheter in place. In the very unlikely event the catheter is pulled out, cover the exit site with a sterile dressing and seek immediate medical attention.

What happens if the PleurX® catheter is accidentally cut or damaged?

If the catheter is accidentally cut or damaged, immediately pinch the catheter closed between your fingers. Slip the blue emergency slide clamp, included in every PleurX® drainage kit, over the catheter and push the catheter completely into the small end of the clamp. This will close the catheter. Notify your doctor immediately.

When should I reorder supplies?

You should reorder supplies when you have three drainage kits remaining.

How do I reorder supplies?

Contact Edgepark Medical at 800.321.0591 or online at edgepark.com.