

Tenckhoff Catheter – Quick Reminders

1. It is common to experience some pain at the insertion site for a few days after the procedure. You can take any pain medication you usually take for pain. You can resume all daily medications as before.
2. Drainage colour may change. This is normal. Call RACE nurses if drainage becomes thick, opaque white or opaque yellow.
3. Catheter can remain in for several weeks to years depending on the disease process.
4. Catheter can be removed at your request if you do not tolerate it **OR** if drainage is less than **150mL per week x 3 weeks**.
5. A home care nurse will contact you within a few days from catheter insertion to arrange catheter care and to bring supplies.
6. You can shower with the catheter. Cover the catheter with a waterproof dressing prior to showering.
7. If the catheter falls out. Cover the site with a gauze, tape it down, and call the RACE office to book a visit. You do not need to go to Emergency Department.
8. **Signs of infection**: redness, pain, heat at the catheter insertion site, with or without fever or yellow/green/malodorous drainage at the site or from the catheter. Call RACE nurse if you suspect infection.
9. If the catheter is **NOT** draining: catheter should be flushed it with saline, fluid pulled back and the adaptor changed. Your home care nurse should have orders to do this.
10. Stitch holding catheter in place can be removed **30 days** after insertion by your home care nurse (your nurse has the order).
11. If you or your home care nurse have any catheter-related questions, you can call the RACE nurses. For all other non-catheter related issues/questions, please contact your oncologist/palliative doctor or other physicians in your circle of care.
12. You can access more detailed catheter-related information in “My Tenckhoff Catheter Booklet”.

	Contact numbers
RACE Office	416-340-4800 ext: 4657 (for administrative issues)*
RACE Nurses	416-340-4800 ext: 2751 OR 2871 (for catheter-related issues)*
Holidays/Weekends/After 4PM Mon.-Fri.	Emergency: go to the nearest ED or call 911 Non-Urgent: catheter-related: RACE nurses; administrative: RACE office; leave a message*
Ontario Health at Home	1-833-515-1234
Integrated Care	1-833-978-2024

* Messages are returned within one business day