

North Carolina Women's Hospital

Peritoneal Port Catheter Removal

How do I get ready for my peritoneal port catheter removal?

- There is no special preparation to have your port catheter removed.
- You can eat and drink normally.
- You must arrange for someone to come with you to drive you home.

What can I expect while having the catheter removed?

- Your peritoneal catheter will be removed in the GYN-ONC clinic. The procedure will take about 30 minutes.
- Your healthcare provider will go over the risks, what to expect, answer your questions and have you sign a consent form.
- Having your port removed may be uncomfortable, but we will help you be as comfortable as medically possible. Most patients are able to go home after the procedure.

How is the catheter removed?

- The nurse will help you get ready for the procedure.
- Your health care provider will:
 - Clean the skin over your port site. Place sterile drapes so only the port site can be seen.
 - Inject numbing medication into your skin (You may feel a quick stick, like a bee sting).
 - Test the site to make sure you are not feeling any pain.
- Your old incision will be opened to remove the port. You may feel some tugging and pressure while the port is being removed. Let your provider know if you are feeling any pain.
- Your provider will apply pressure and may use medication to stop any bleeding.
- The incision will be closed and adhesive skin closures (Steri-Strip band aids) will be placed on the incision. A pressure dressing will be placed over the wound.
- The nurse will take your vital signs and check your wound site for any bleeding. You will be given wound care instructions prior to discharge.

How do I take care of the wound after my catheter is removed?

- Leave the pressure dressing on your wound for 2 days and do not get your wound wet. After 2 days you may remove the pressure dressing and wash the area daily with plain soap and water. Do not apply lotion or cream to the wound.
- Call your health care provider if:
 - Your temperature is higher than 101°F (38.6°C)
 - Your skin gets red or hot to touch.
 - You notice a lot of drainage from the wound site.
 - You are having pain at the site of removal that is not relieved with your pain medications.

If you have questions or concerns, call the GYN-ONC Clinic at 919-966-6187 to speak with the Advice Nurse during normal clinic hours (Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:30pm). After Clinic hours and on weekends, call UNC Hospitals at 919-966-4131 and ask for the G-Y-N resident on call.