

# *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 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 our clinic. The procedure will take about 30 minutes.
- The doctor will go over the risks, what to expect, answer your questions and have you sign a consent form.
- Having your port removed will be uncomfortable, but we will help you be as comfortable as possible.
- You will be able to go home afterwards.

### **How is the catheter removed?**

- You will change into a gown leaving your underwear on. The nurse will cover you with a sheet and get you ready for the procedure.
- The doctor will then:
  - clean the area where your port is
  - 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 skin 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 the doctor know if you are feeling any pain.
- The doctor will apply pressure or use a medicine to stop any bleeding.
- The incision will be closed and band-aids will be put over the site.
- The nurse will take your vital signs and make sure you have responded normally to the procedure. She will talk with you about what you can expect and what you should do when you get home.

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

- Leave the pressure dressing on your wound for 2 days and don't get it wet. After 2 days you may wash the area daily with plain soap and water. Allow the band-aids to fall off by themselves.
- Call to talk with a nurse or doctor if:
  - your temperature is higher than 101°F (38.6°C)
  - your skin gets red or hot to touch. Compare it to your normal skin on the opposite side of your body to check if there is a difference
  - you notice a lot of drainage coming from where the catheter was taken out

### **Who do I call with questions and concerns?**

- Call the advice nurse at 919-966-6187 during clinic hours Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm. After hours and on weekends, call 919-966-4131 and ask to speak to the Gynecology Resident on call.