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Surgical Drain Care and Cleaning

NOTE: When cleaning and handling around the drain area, always wear gloves and wash hands thoroughly when finished.

Hydrotherapy: If instructed by doctor to perform hydrotherapy, please follow these steps.

- 1. Stand patient in sink or bath tub on a non-slip surface like a mat or small towel.
- 2. Using a hand held sprayer, gently run warm water over the affected area for 5-10 minutes.
- 3. Follow drain cleaning instructions.
- 4. Pat dry when finished.

Drain Cleaning: Follow these instructions a minimum of 2 times per day to keep the drain area clean.

- 1. Soak a clean cloth or cotton in warm water.
- 2. Use the wet cloth to clean around the drain. Be sure to clean the fur surrounding the area, the shaved area, the drain and suture sites.
- 3. When cleaning the drain carefully remove debris and drainage.

Soaking: If wound is on a foot or tail this technique may work better.

- 1. Put an inch or two of warm water in a zippered plastic bag.
- 2. Place injured extremity in bag, be sure wound is submerged.
- 3. Hold top of bag closed around foot or tail and soak for 5-10 minutes.
- 4. Pat dry.