

Benrus Surgical

Breast Care

Drain Care Instructions

Wash hands thoroughly before handling the drains.

Open the valve (bulb will expand) and gently squeeze fluid from the bulb into a cup to measure.

Squeeze the bulb tightly in your hand and close the valve with the other hand (this re-activates the suction).

Measure the fluid and record the amount.

Keep a daily record (24 hour totals) of the fluid. Each morning empty the drain at the same time to get accurate 24-hour totals. Empty the bulb as often as needed but remember to record the amount each time. Good times to empty the bulb are when you get up in the morning, midday, and before bedtime or whenever the bulb is half to two thirds full.

If you have more than one drain we want separate total for each one.

You can expect the drainage to first be bright red for 2-3 days, then turn pinkish and then turn clear amber in color. We want the drainage to be less than 40cc in a 24 hour period before removing the drain.

Drain Site Care:

Apply sterile dressing sponges to cover drain site incision. Secure with tape. You can apply Polysporin ointment to the drain site with a clean Q-tip.

When to call the doctor:

Red and painful around the drain site.

Fluid is cloudy.