

Taking care of your peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter

Your access is your lifeline. Follow these tips to clean and care for your PD catheter:



Keep your catheter and exit site clean and dry.

- Once healed, shower daily if possible.
- Avoid swimming or baths unless allowed by your doctor.
- Check with your doctor before using powder, lotion, or creams.
- Always use proper hand hygiene and a new mask.



Remove old dressings and tape with your hands. Avoid using scissors, razors, or sharp objects.



Keep the end of your PD catheter capped and clamped for your safety.



Check your tunnel and exit site each day for redness, drainage, tenderness, or swelling. Make sure the catheter cuff is not showing or coming out.



Secure your catheter to your body to keep it from catching on clothes. Wear clean, loose-fitting clothing and be careful with zippers.



Take an active role in your care

Call your home dialysis nurse immediately if you missed a step in your daily care or see signs of infection.