

Caring for your peritoneal dialysis (PD) catheter

Your access is your lifeline—ensure you feel your best by following these tips to clean and care for your PD catheter:

- Keep your PD catheter and exit site clean and dry.
 - Once your access has healed, shower daily if possible.
 - Avoid swimming or tub baths unless approved by your doctor.
- Perform daily exit site care according to the instructions provided by your care team.
 - Use proper hand hygiene and a new mask each time you care for your access.
 - Remove old dressings and tape with your hands and avoid the use of scissors, razors or sharp objects near your catheter.
- Check your tunnel and exit site daily for any redness, drainage, tenderness or swelling. Make sure the catheter cuff is not showing or coming out.
- Ask your care team before using powder, lotion or creams on your access.
- Secure your PD catheter to your body to keep it from pulling or catching on your clothes. Wear clean, loose-fitting clothing around your catheter and be careful when using zippers.
- Keep the end of your PD catheter capped and clamped for your safety.

Avoid peritonitis—don't wait to call your nurse!

You are the best person to help prevent peritonitis. Call your home therapies nurse immediately if you missed a step in your treatment procedure or see any sign of infection.



Take an active role in your care

Learn about caring for and monitoring your PD catheter from your home dialysis nurse. Reach out any time you have questions or concerns about your access.

