

# Percutaneous Drainage Catheter Insertion

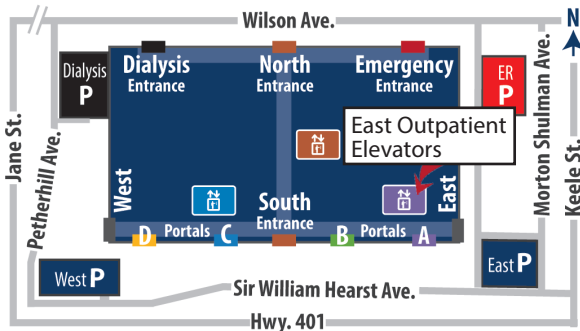
## Appointment Information



You have an appointment for a **percutaneous drainage catheter insertion**. Please read this handout on how to prepare for your procedure.

**Location:** Medical Imaging  
Humber River Health, 1235 Wilson Ave.,  
Toronto, ON M3M 0B2

Take the East Outpatient Elevators to level 2. Follow the Medical Imaging Registration signs.



**By car (or Wheel-Trans):** Use the East Entrance.

**By TTC:** Use the North Entrance.

### Bring to the hospital:



- Your health card (OHIP) and photo ID.
- All the medicines you are currently taking, including over-the-counter medicines, herbals and supplements, in their original containers.

**Do not** bring jewelry or other valuables.

## What is a percutaneous drainage catheter insertion?

A **percutaneous drainage catheter insertion** is a procedure where we insert a small tube (drainage catheter) into an area in the body to drain out unwanted fluid that has accumulated. We can insert this tube into any part of the body, such as the liver, gall bladder, kidney or chest.

## How do I prepare for the procedure?

### TELL YOUR DOCTOR IF YOU:

- Are currently taking any medicine. If you are on aspirin, anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs), or blood thinners, your doctor may instruct you to stop taking these before your procedure.
- Are pregnant, think you may be pregnant, or are breastfeeding. If you are pregnant, we may cancel your procedure to reduce the risk of radiation to your fetus. It is not yet clear if the dye has any effect on breast milk.
- Have any medical conditions or were recently ill.
- Have any allergies, especially to any medicine or dye containing iodine. If you have allergies, wear your MedicAlert® bracelet on your procedure day.

### THE NIGHT BEFORE YOUR PROCEDURE:

- Your doctor may instruct you **not to eat or drink anything after midnight the night before (or for several hours before) your procedure**. If you need sedation during the procedure, your stomach must be empty.

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## THE MORNING OF YOUR PROCEDURE:

- You may take your usual medicines, as your doctor has instructed, with a small sip of water.  
**Do not take the medicines your doctor told you to hold/stop.**
- Do not wear any jewelry, dental appliances, eyeglasses, hair clips or metal objects that may interfere with the x-ray images.

## What can I expect during the procedure?

You will be awake for the procedure. We may ask you to change into a hospital gown.

### DURING THE PROCEDURE:

- We will put an IV line into a vein in your arm or hand to give you fluid and medicine. We may give you sedation through the IV to make you feel calm or sleepy.
- We will numb the area with local anesthetic so you do not feel pain. You will only feel some pressure during the procedure.
- The doctor will make a very small incision (cut) into your skin and insert a catheter. X-ray and contrast dye will help us guide the catheter to the area where the fluid has collected.
- We may connect the other end of the catheter to a drainage bag outside your body to drain. If we have positioned the catheter to drain straight into your body, you may not need this bag.

### AT THE END OF THE PROCEDURE:

- We will secure the catheter in place and put a bandage around the drainage tube.
- You will stay in hospital for about 4 hours as we monitor you and manage any pain you may feel.

**You must have someone drive you home and stay with you for the next 24 hours.**



## How do I care for myself at home?

**ACTIVITY:** Rest for the next 24 hours. Do not do any strenuous activity, drive, or use heavy machinery.

**DIET:** Resume your regular diet. Drink plenty of fluids to help flush the dye out of your body.

**MEDICINES:** If your doctor asked you to hold/stop any medicines before your procedure, **do not** restart them until your doctor tells you it is safe to do so.

### CATHETER AND DRAINAGE SITE CARE:

- Keep the drainage bag lower than the drainage site.
- Keep the bandage around the drainage tube dry.
- Your doctor will arrange for a home care nurse to visit you at your home regularly to check the dressings around the tube and the tube itself. The home care nurse will help you care for the tube and provide instruction and support. For your safety, please pay very close attention to your nurse. **Ask questions if you do not understand the instructions.**



### Go to the nearest Emergency Department right away if:

- The tube falls out, dislodges, or breaks.
- Fluid is leaking around the tube.
- Blood soaks the bandage around the tube.

### Contact your doctor or nurse if you:

- Cannot see drainage in the bag
- Are itchy, red, swollen around the tube site
- Have a fever 38.5°C (101.3°F) or higher
- Feel very tired and weak.