Exit-Site Care is Important
By cleaning your exit site and putting antibiotic cream on it every day, you:
- may avoid infection
- may increase the life of your catheter

1 Look at Exit Site
- Get your supplies
- Wash and dry your hands
- Look at the exit site and the area around it
  - Is there redness, swelling or drainage?
  - If you find any of these, call your PD nurse immediately

2 Wash and Dry Exit Site
- Start washing close to the catheter; move your hand in circles around and away from the catheter
- Rinse carefully and completely
- Dry around and under the catheter; move your hand in circles around and away from the catheter
- Leave crusts and/or scabs in place until they fall off on their own

3 Put Cream on Exit Site
- Put a small amount of antibiotic cream* on a cotton swab (the size of a pencil tip eraser or ¼ inch squeezed from the tube)
- Use the cotton swab to spread the antibiotic cream around the exit site close to the catheter
- Secure the catheter and dressings with tape or an immobilizing device; do not tug or pull on the catheter
- If the exit site becomes wet or dirty, repeat exit-site care

Please note this is a general educational resource and is not a substitute for the advice provided by your own physician or other medical professional.


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