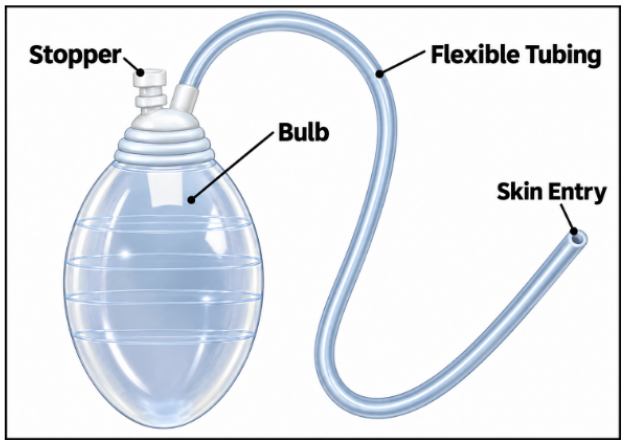
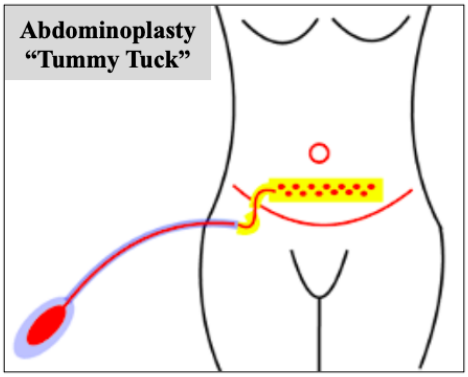
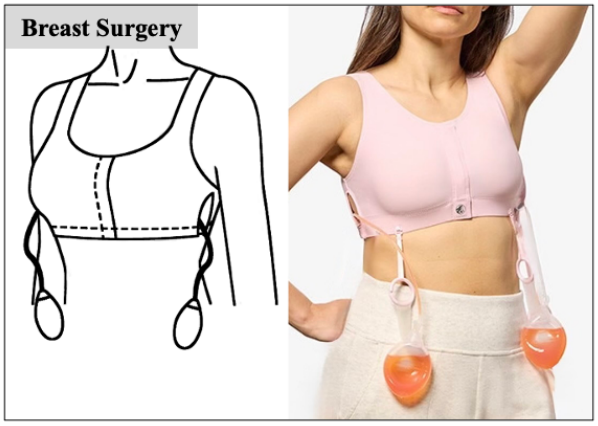
DRAIN CARE OVERVIEW

The Jackson Pratt (JP) drain removes excess fluid that the body produces as a result of surgery. The fluid is a mixture of lymphatic fluid, blood cells and debris. Healing can occur more efficiently by removing the fluid. The amount of fluid collected by the drain is related to the extent of the surgical procedure. The color of the fluid usually begins as cranberry (blood tinged) and as the days after surgery go by, the color becomes pink or yellow. Sometimes increased activity can cause the color of the fluid to become cranberry after it has been yellow.

Your drain should be emptied every 4-6 hours (you don't need to wake up at night) and recorded on the sheet provided. Remember, if you have more than one drain, record the amounts individually. The drains should be secured to garments so there is no tension at the place where it enters your skin.







How to Empty Your Drain

1. **Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**



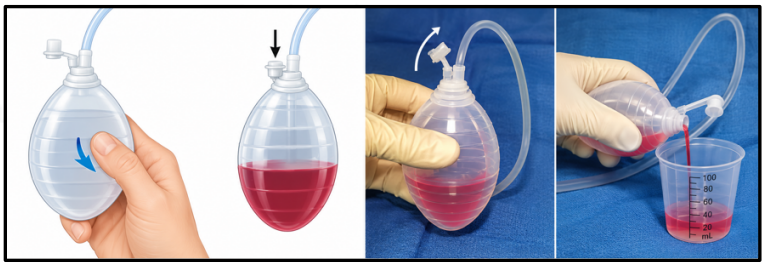
2. **Remove the stopper cap from the bulb.**



3. **Squeeze the bulb to empty the contents into a measuring cup.**



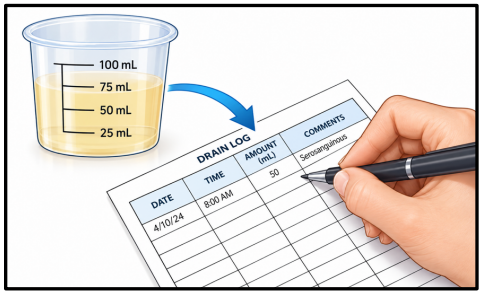
4. **Compress the bulb by squeezing it with the stopper cap still open. Then, while squeezing the bulb, replace and close the stopper cap. This removes the air in the bulb to create a closed suction system.**



5. **The bulb should appear compressed and flat if done properly. It should not be round.**



6. **Record the output on the drain sheet provided each time it is emptied. Then, you may tally up the totals over each 24-hour period.**



7. **Discard the drainage into the toilet. Rinse and wash the measuring container with soap and water or use a fresh one.**



8. Tips:
   - If the gauze around the drain becomes saturated, you may replace it with new gauze.
   - You can clip the drain tab to your clothing with a safety pin to prevent tugging.
   - When able to shower, you can clip the drains to a lanyard or string to support them while showering.

BOUSTANY MD
PLASTIC SURGERY

DRAIN MEASUREMENT LOG

- You will need to empty the drains every 6-8 hours, then keep track of the 24-hour total. The 24-hour total will determine if the drain can be removed.
  - You will be able to empty the drain less frequently as the drainage amount declines.
- Use a clean measuring cup to measure the fluid quantity and record the output. There are also numbers written on the drain bulb itself. Use a measuring cup if it is difficult to read the bulb numbers.
- Please enter the number of milliliters (cc's) out of each drain over the entire 24-hour period. This will help us decide when the drains can be removed.
- Do not contaminate the inside of the drain. Be sure hands are freshly washed before touching.
- There may be clear-pink drainage that leaks around the drain site at the skin. If this occurs, you should apply dry gauze to absorb the moisture.

	Drain: RIGHT	Drain: LEFT
Post-operative Day 1		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
Time 4:	ml	ml
Time 5:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 2		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
Time 4:	ml	ml
Time 5:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 3		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
Time 4:	ml	ml
Time 5:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml

	Drain: RIGHT	Drain: LEFT
Post-operative Day 4		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
Time 4:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 5		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
Time 4:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 6		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 7		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 8		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml

	Drain: RIGHT	Drain: LEFT
Post-operative Day 9		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 10		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 11		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 12		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml
Post-operative Day 13		
Time 1:	ml	ml
Time 2:	ml	ml
Time 3:	ml	ml
24-hour total:	ml	ml