

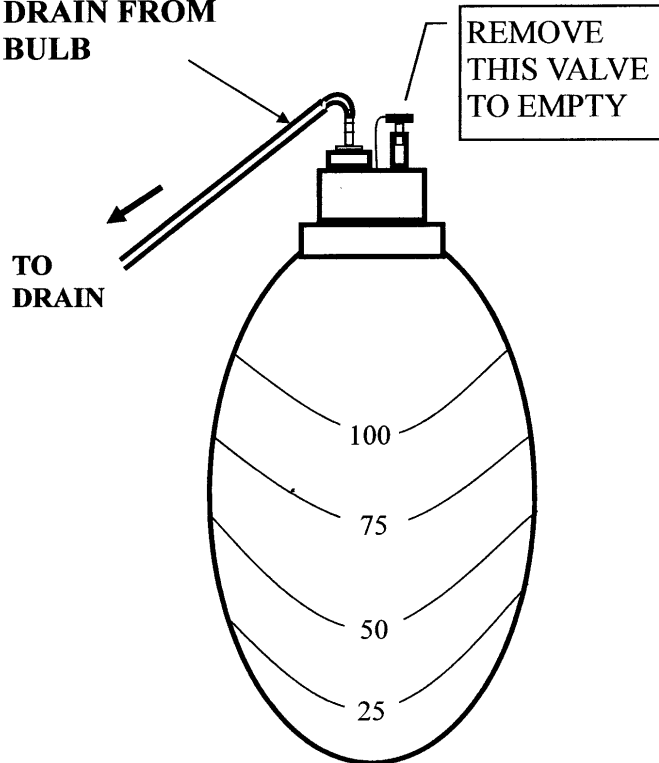
PATIENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR DRAIN CARE AND DRAIN RECORD

Patients Name _____ Date of Surgery _____

PLEASE RECORD YOUR DRAINAGE 4 TIMES

(Early morning, noon, late afternoon, before bed)

**DO NOT REMOVE
DRAIN FROM
BULB**



SUCTION BULB

1. Remove valve to empty drain (DO NOT detach drain line from bulb). Hold bulb upside down and squeeze fluid content into measuring cup.
2. Record date, time, and amount of drainage (cc's) from each bulb.
3. With one hand squeeze bulb tight and with the other hand, re-insert valve into bulb to enable suction system.
4. Please bring your record of drainage volume to the office **EACH** visit until the drains are removed.

- Drains are used to prevent unwanted fluid from accumulating under a flap (usually after a facelift, abdominoplasty, and other surgery.) The amount of time that the drains are left in is dependent upon the volume of fluid your body produces. Your drains are not generally removed until the drainage in each bulb is less than 30ccs in a 24 hour period.
- If you are admitted to the Piper Recovery Care Center, your nurse will help to explain to you the function of the drain bulb prior to your discharge. If you are going to be discharged from the Surgery center after surgery, your nurse will explain the drain bulb function to both you and a family member before your discharge.
- **PLEASE EMPTY AND RECORD THE DRAINAGE FROM EACH DRAIN 4 TIMES A DAILY.** In the morning, around noon, late afternoon (5-6pm), and before going to bed. Even if it appears to be a very minimal amount of drainage, empty and record the volume 4 times daily.
- Record all volumes in **ccs**. Please use a measuring cup and be as accurate as possible. If no measuring cup is available, release the suction by opening the valve and estimate the volume on the side of the bulb.
- **DO NOT DISCONNECT YOUR DRAINAGE BULB FROM THE DRAINAGE TUBING.**
- If you note any unusual odor or unexpected color, please notify the office. Drains should be bloody and get lighter over time.
- **PLEASE bring this record with you EACH time you visit the office until your drains are removed. We cannot remove your drains without your recorded drainage information.**
- Please use the **printed record sheet** to record your drainage.
- Remember to milk (or strip) the tubing 3 times a day to keep it flowing.
- Please call the office (480) 614-3535 if you have any questions. Thank you.