

# Peritoneal Dialysis Catheter Post-Op Bowel Care Instructions

After Peritoneal Dialysis (PD) catheter insertion, constipation after surgery can lead to problems with filling and draining of dialysis solution through your new PD catheter.

To avoid constipation, fill the prescription for Colace<sup>®</sup>, Lactulose<sup>®</sup> and Senokot<sup>®</sup>. These medications will help prevent constipation. They should be taken as follows:

- Colace<sup>®</sup> 200 mg twice a day, in the morning and bedtime.
- If you do not have a bowel movement for one (1) day post-surgery, take Lactulose<sup>®</sup> 15 mL, twice a day, in the morning and bedtime.
- If you do not have a bowel movement for two (2) days post-surgery, continue to take Colace<sup>®</sup> and Lactulose<sup>®</sup> as above, and add Senokot<sup>®</sup> 8.6 mg (two (2) tablets), by mouth, twice a day, in the morning and bedtime.
- If you start to have diarrhea or loose bowel movements, stop taking Colace<sup>®</sup>, Lactulose<sup>®</sup> and Senokot<sup>®</sup>.

Colace<sup>®</sup>, Lactulose<sup>®</sup> and Senokot<sup>®</sup> are no longer required when you can have one (1) to two (2) normal bowel movements per day. If you were on these medications before surgery continue to take as previously directed.

## Questions

Call the Peritoneal Dialysis Unit at  
705-743-2121 x. 3054

## Please note

If you do not have a bowel movement for three (3) days, or have nausea and vomiting, you should go to the nearest Emergency Department (ED).

If you have problems that you think should be dealt with immediately, go to your nearest ED.

It is very important that you (or anyone) **DO NOT** inject your abdomen with insulin, Aranesp<sup>®</sup>, or any injectable medication. **YOU CANNOT** have any injections in your abdomen as the catheter is buried and can be easily damaged by injections.