

# Thoracentesis Discharge Instructions

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Amount of fluid removed:

- Remove gauze dressing in 24 hrs. May leave open to air. Cleanse site with soap and water daily. Pat dry.  
**Do not** submerge site in pool of water until healed, approximately 4 - 5 days. Monitor site daily for any redness, drainage, or bleeding.

## Notify Your Doctor To Report Any Of The Following:

- Fever higher than 100° F and/or chills
- Continued bleeding, redness, or drainage from the procedure site
- Increased pain from the procedure site or painful breathing
- A change in breathing pattern
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

**If you have any questions, please call your doctor who ordered your Thoracentesis.**