



Nephrostomy Tube Placement/Exchange

Nephrostomy is the insertion of a tube through the skin into the kidney to drain urine when the normal path to the bladder is blocked. The patient will be positioned on his/her abdomen for this procedure. The patient will be heavily sedated for the insertion/exchange.

***Please Note:** Drainage will be red-tinged the first day and usually clears up by the second or third day post insertion.

1. **Labs:** Orders should be obtained for PT/INR, PTT, CBC, CHEM 7 (HCG, if needed) *Labs are not needed for tube exchanges.
2. The patient will be NPO 4 hours prior to the procedure. This is due to sedation the patient will receive.
3. **Meds:** Usually medications are not withheld with the exception of anticoagulants. You will need to obtain orders for withholding these medications.
4. If the patient is not able to give informed consent, please have the appropriate designee available to give consent, either by phone or in person.
5. I.V. access will be needed administration of antibiotics, sedation, I.V. fluids.
6. The patient and caregiver need to be taught proper care of the tube. Some nurses have been in serviced on these discharge instructions. However, if you need an Imaging nurse to give the instructions, please let us know as soon as a discharge date has been determined.

An Imaging nurse can be reached at x5280, M-F, 7am – 7pm. After hours, the on-call nurse can be paged by contacting the Imaging Front Office at 678-312-4455 or Extension 24455.