



Dr Douglas Ross
SPECIALIST GENERAL SURGEON

Instructions for managing your wound drain

A drain has been placed into your wound during your operation. The purpose of the drain is to remove excess fluid or infected fluid from the wound so that it can heal properly. These drains can remain in for a significant period of time, and you will need to look after and measure your drain output at home.

Each type of drain works slightly differently, so please make sure you are comfortable with how it works, how to empty it and to close it properly so that it functions well. The ward staff should show you how to use the drain, but if there is any doubt, please contact the rooms and speak to Dr Ross.

You will need to measure the drainage output daily, preferably at the same time every day, and record the output in the table below. Please bring this with you to your next appointment. The drain can generally be removed once it is draining 25mls or less for two consecutive days.

Drainage chart

Date	Volume drained

