

CHEST TUBE CARE



By Bentplate84 - Took the photo in the OR, CC BY-SA 3.0. <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=22456662>

Chest Tube Care

Never lift drain above chest level

Avoid kinks in tubing

Anchor tubing to patient's skin to prevent pulling

Maintain unit in secure position on stand or connected to patient's bed

Mark and document drainage at 1-4 hour intervals

Do not strip or milk the tubing

Assessment

Gentle bubbling in chamber should be noted

Assess respiratory sounds, effort, and pain

Chest xray should be ordered to ensure placement

Assess character and amount of drainage