_____'s Care Guide for my Jackson Pratt (JP) Drain

About my JP drain

I am leaving the hospital with a JP drain

- My drain will collect fluid from my surgery site.
- This will help with bruising and swelling.
- My drain works by suction and will get bigger as it collects fluid.
- When I go home, I will have to empty the drain.
- A nurse will show me how to do this.

How I may feel and what I should do

These symptoms **need follow-up**

- My drain falls out.
- My drain is leaking.
- My drain doesn't get bigger or collect fluid.
- The fluid in my drain is starting to smell.
- The fluid in my drain changes colour.
- I have a temperature of 38.0 C or higher.
- I have swelling, redness, or pain around my drain.

I need to **call my homecare nurse** or **surgeon**

My notes and questions

How I should care for my JP drain

Helpful tips at home

- I should empty my drain when fluid collects in the bottom (at least once every 8 hours).
- **I shouldn't** let my drain get too full or it won't work.
- I should keep my drain below the surgery site so it drains well.
- I can attach the drain to my clothes with a safety pin.
- I should check my drain and tubing often for kinks and/or clots.
- **I shouldn't** have any tension or tug on the drain or tubing.

How to empty my JP drain

1. Wash my hands.
2. Take out the drainage plug.
3. Hold my drain upside down and squeeze the fluid into the measuring container.
4. When the drain is empty, I should keep squeezing until it is flat. When my drain is flat, I can put the drainage plug back in. Suction is created when the air has been squeezed out. My drain needs suction to work. The drain gets bigger as it collects fluid.
5. Record the date, time, and amount of fluid that was collect on my drain output chart.
6. Flush the fluid down the toilet.
7. Wash my hands.

My drain output chart

Date	Time	Amount

My notes and questions