



TISSUE EXPANDER POSTOPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS

INJECTION

1. Clean port with alcohol wipe.
2. Attach 25-gauge needle to 10-mL saline flush.
3. Puncture dome of the port with butterfly needle until the needle contacts the backing.
4. Slowly inject the specified amount of solution as prescribed by your doctor.
5. Withdraw needle and discard in an appropriate sharps container.
6. Repeat for all tissue expanders. May use the same needle and saline syringe for all expanders during a single expansion session.

CLEANING

1. Patient must shower daily with soap and water and have it run over the area of the expanders including all port sites and incisions.
2. Pat the area dry with a towel.
3. Apply a small dab of Silvadene cream to the port site (where it comes out of the skin).
4. Cover the entire area with a large ABD pad.
5. May either use tape to hold dressings in place or surgical net dressing.

WHAT TO WATCH FOR

1. Redness of any area undergoing tissue expansion (including skin on top of expanders and the location of the incisions and port sites).
2. Foul discharge from the port sites or from the incision.
3. Increased tenderness of tissue expanded areas.
4. Excessive shininess or thinning of skin overlying tissue expanders.
5. Redness over pressure points of tissue expanders (ie, corners).
6. Wound formation over tissue expander.
7. Tissue expander pushing out through skin or the incision.
8. Sudden loss of fullness of tissue expander.