Peri-Anal Abscess or Thrombosed External Hemorrhoid, Incision & Drainage

A peri-anal abscess (sometimes called a “boil”) occurs when the opening of an oil gland near the anus becomes blocked. The bacteria inside the gland causes an abscess to form.

Treatment of your abscess has required an incision to drain the pus. If a gauze packing was inserted into the abscess opening, this should be removed within 1-2 days. If a drain was placed, this should remain in until your clinic follow up in 7 to 10 days. Antibiotics are not required in the treatment of a simple abscess, unless the infection is spreading into the skin around the wound.

The treatment of your external hemorroid has required an incision to relieve the pressure.

Healing of the wound will take about one to two weeks.

Home Care:

- The wound may drain for the first several days. Cover the wound with a clean dry bandage. Change the dressing if it becomes soaked with blood or pus, or soiled with feces.
- Sit in a tub or basin filled with about 6 inches of warm water for 10-15 minutes. Repeat this three times a day for comfort and to keep the area clean.
- If a gauze packing was placed inside the abscess cavity, you may be advised to remove it yourself. You may do this in the shower. Once the packing is removed, you should wash the area carefully in the shower once a day, until the skin opening has closed.
- If a drain was left in place, you will need to return to clinic in 7 to 10 days to remove it. It is okay if the drain falls out at home, because that typically means the opening is large enough to drain on its own.
- If you were prescribed antibiotics, take them as directed until they are all gone.
- You may use acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil) to control pain, unless another medicine was prescribed. [ NOTE : If you have chronic liver or kidney disease or ever had a stomach ulcer or GI bleeding, talk with your doctor before using these medicines.]
- Keep your stools soft to avoid the need to strain when having a bowel movement. Unless another medicine was prescribed, try the following:
  - **IF YOU ARE CONSTIPATED:** You may use over-the-counter laxatives such as MILK OF MAGNESIA (mild acting) or, DULCOLAX (if stronger action is needed).
  - **IF YOU ARE NOT CONSTIPATED** but stools are hard, swallow one tablespoon of MINERAL OIL 2-3 times a day. This will rapidly lubricate and soften stools without producing diarrhea.

Follow Up

with your doctor as advised by our staff.

Get Prompt Medical Attention

if any of the following occur:

- Increasing redness of the skin around the wound
- Increasing local pain or swelling
- Continued pus draining from the wound five days after the incision
- Fever of 101.5°F (38.6°C) or higher, or as directed by your healthcare provider