

## How to do a Twin Bag™ Exchange

### Important things to remember:

- ☐ Masks
- ☐ Handwashing
- ☐ Checking your supplies
- ☐ Connection points
- ☐ Checking the drained fluid
- ☐ Completing your exchange in a clean area with no clutter or drafts

متوفر أيضاً باللغة العربية.

Also available in Arabic: AR85-2536

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Also available in Simplified Chinese: CH85-2214



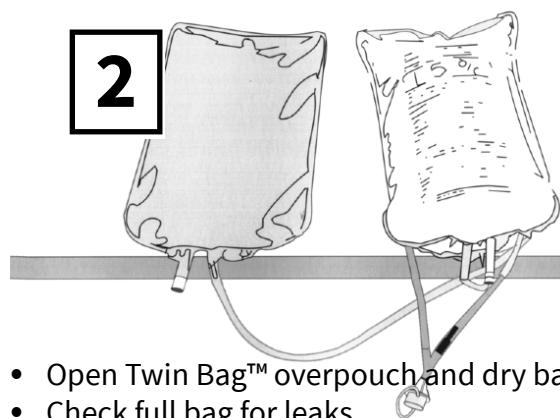
[www.nshealth.ca](http://www.nshealth.ca)

**1**



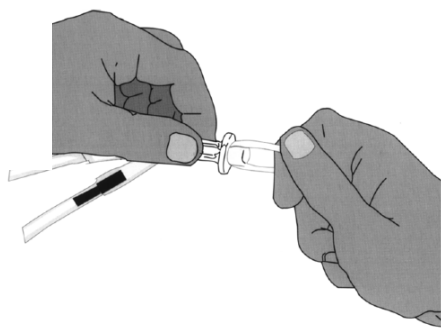
- Mask and wash hands.
- Gather supplies on a clean surface.
- Check Twin Bag™ for: solution strength, bag size, expiry date, and calcium.
- Check MiniCap expiry date.

**2**



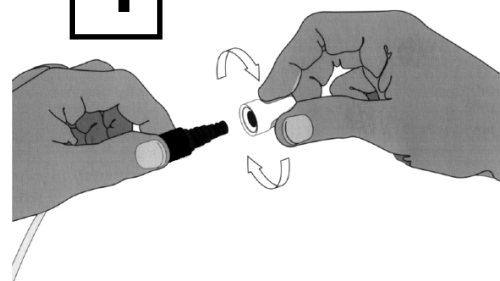
- Open Twin Bag™ overpouch and dry bag.
- Check full bag for leaks.
- Check medication ports.
- Check empty bag.
- Check pull ring, green seal, and Y area.

**3**



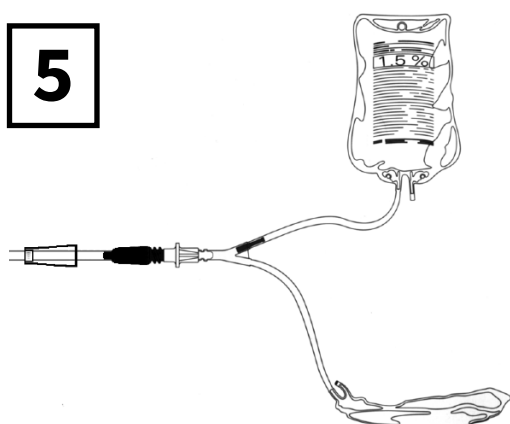
- Tape tubing to the table at the Y.
- Expose transfer set and check that clamp is closed.
- Mask and wash hands with gel.
- Remove the pull ring.

**4**



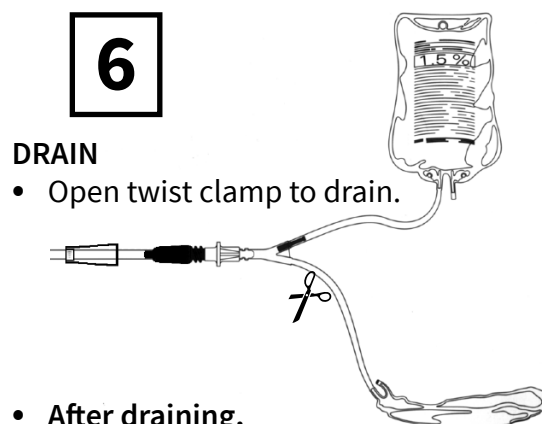
- Remove MiniCap from transfer set.
- Attach Twin Bag™ connector to transfer set right away.

**5**



- Hang fill bag and place drain bag down on the pole.

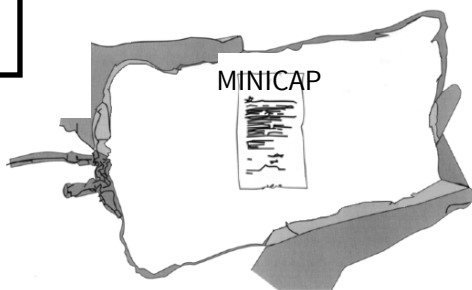
**6**



#### DRAIN

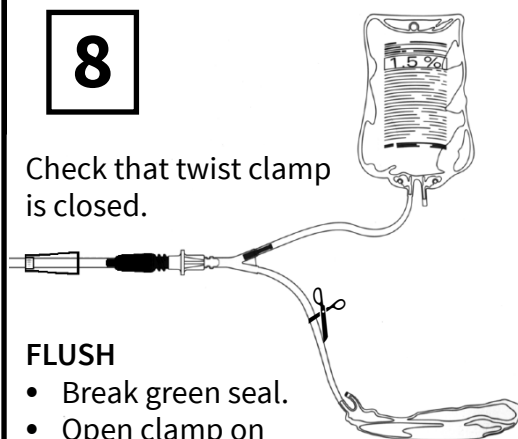
- Open twist clamp to drain.
- After draining, close twist clamp on transfer set.
- Place clamp on drain line.
- Place drain bag on the table to check it.

**7**



- Check drained fluid for:
  - Clearness: If cloudy, call your Home Dialysis Unit.
  - Fibrin: If fibrin, add heparin as instructed.
  - Blood: If you also have pain, call your Home Dialysis Unit.

**8**



Check that twist clamp is closed.

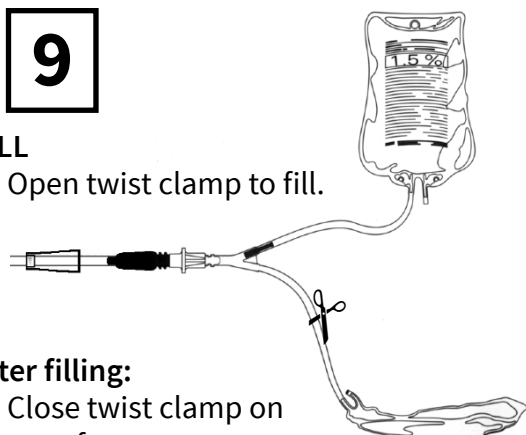
**FLUSH**

- Break green seal.
- Open clamp on drain line for 3 seconds.
- Close clamp on drain line.

**9**

**FILL**

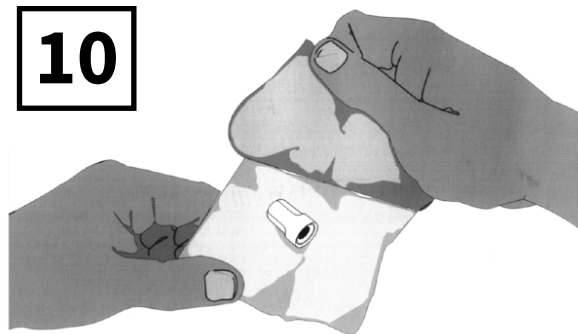
- Open twist clamp to fill.



**After filling:**

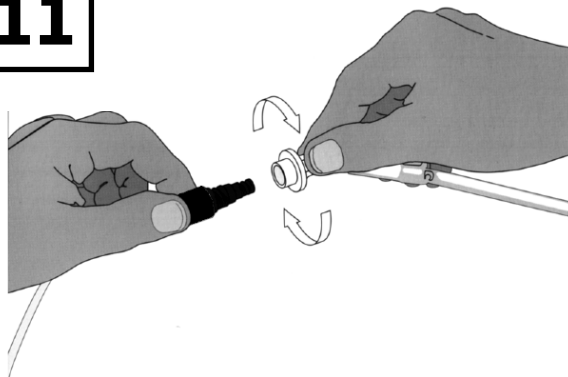
- Close twist clamp on transfer set.
- Place clamp on fill line.
- Check that all 3 clamps are closed.

**10**



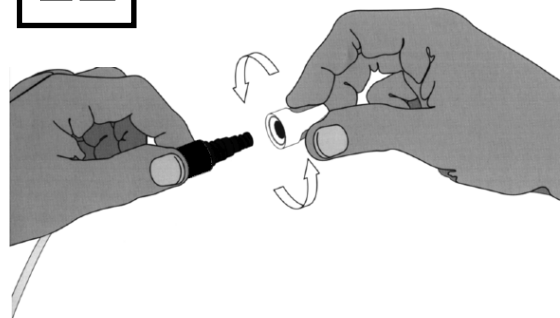
- Mask.
- Wash hands with gel.
- Open MiniCap package.

**11**



- Unscrew Twin Bag™ connector from transfer set. Keep the transfer set in your hand.

**12**



- Apply new MiniCap to transfer set right away.
- Weigh drain bag and record.

## Drain problems - Twin Bag™

Problem/cause:	What to do:
1. Twist clamp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check: is it open?</li> <li>• Check under clamp for pinched tubing.</li> </ul>
2. Kink in tubing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check around dressing.</li> <li>• Check along drain line.</li> <li>• Check tape on pole.</li> </ul>
3. Fibrin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap tubing tightly around pencil and release. (Repeat.)</li> </ul>
4. Constipation (not able to poop)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take laxatives as directed by your health care provider.</li> </ul>
5. Body position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bend back and forth.</li> <li>• Stand up or press on abdomen (stomach area).</li> <li>• Cough.</li> <li>• Make sure the drain bag is lower than your abdomen.</li> </ul>
6. Air lock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap tubing tightly around a pencil and release. (Repeat.)</li> </ul>
7. Defective bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change to a new set.</li> </ul>

# Fill problems - Twin Bag™

Problem/cause:	What to do:
1. Twist clamp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check: is it open?</li> <li>• Check under clamp for pinched tubing.</li> </ul>
2. Kink in tubing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check around dressing.</li> <li>• Check along tubing.</li> </ul>
3. Green seal not broken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure green seal is broken. You should be able to see a space where you cracked the green seal.</li> </ul>
4. Body position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bend back and forth.</li> <li>• Stand up or press on abdomen.</li> <li>• Cough.</li> </ul>
5. Fibrin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap tubing tightly around a pencil and release. (Repeat.)</li> <li>• Inject heparin in fill bag.</li> <li>• Squeeze bag.</li> <li>• Raise pole.</li> </ul>
6. Constipation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take laxatives as directed by your health care provider.</li> </ul>
7. Defective bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change to a new set.</li> </ul>

## Mechanical problems - Twin Bag™

Problem/cause:	What to do:
1. Transfer set contaminated with twist clamp closed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Put MiniCap on for 5 minutes, then remove and put on another new MiniCap.</li> </ul>
2. Did not close twist clamp on transfer set when disconnecting from Twin Bag™	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close twist clamp on transfer set, put MiniCap on for 5 minutes, then remove and put on another MiniCap.</li> <li>Call the Home Dialysis Unit <b>RIGHT AWAY. This is a dialysis emergency.</b> There is a nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
3. Hole in drain bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Close twist clamp on transfer set, then clamp drain line. Put MiniCap on transfer set.</li> <li>Take out new Twin Bag™ system and continue with dialysis exchange.</li> </ul>
4. Hole in fill bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clamp twist clamp on transfer set.</li> <li>Clamp fill line.</li> <li>Put MiniCap on transfer set.</li> <li>Call the Home Dialysis Unit <b>RIGHT AWAY. This is a dialysis emergency.</b> There is a nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
5. Your tubing separates from your catheter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Connection points are not tight</li> <li>› There is pulling on catheter and tubing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use emergency kit. Put catheter clamp on your catheter next to the exit site.</li> <li>Put cap on end of your catheter.</li> <li>Call the Home Dialysis Unit <b>RIGHT AWAY. This is a dialysis emergency.</b> There is a nurse on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.</li> </ul>
6. Needle goes through port of new bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change to new Twin Bag™ set and new syringe and needle.</li> <li>Draw up new medication.</li> </ul>
7. New fluid goes in drained bag	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do another bag exchange.</li> </ul>
8. Contaminated Twin Bag™ connector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throw away the set.</li> <li>Check and prepare a new set.</li> </ul>

[illegible]

This pamphlet is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to replace the advice or professional judgment of a health care provider. The information may not apply to all situations. If you have any questions, please ask your health care provider.

Find all patient education resources here:  
[www.nshealth.ca/patient-education-resources](https://www.nshealth.ca/patient-education-resources)

Connect with a registered nurse in Nova Scotia any time:  
Call 811 or visit: <https://811.novascotia.ca>

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