How to Manage Wet and Dry Contamination in Peritoneal Dialysis

Wet Contamination:
Wet contamination happens when the fluid filled tubing system is accidentally opened or unclamped. If this happens, germs called bacteria can enter the peritoneal cavity causing an infection.

Examples of when wet contamination may happen:
• There is a disconnection between the transfer set and the catheter at the titanium
• There is a small hole in the transfer set or the catheter
• Any time the **twist clamp on the transfer set is not closed** and fluid escapes

When wet contamination happens, follow these steps:
1. Drain out any fluid into an ultraset or a twin bag
2. Close the twist clamp
3. Put on a new minicap
4. Call the Peritoneal Dialysis Clinic or the after hours number
5. Get ready to come for a tubing change. You will also get a prescription for oral antibiotic medication.
6. You may wait until the morning to call if this happens during the night.

Turn over for dry contamination ➔
**Dry Contamination:**
Dry contamination occurs when the sterile ends of the tubing are touched by non sterile surfaces.

Examples of non sterile surfaces are hands, clothing and bed sheets.

**What to do:**

**If the end of the transfer set touches anything during connection:**
1. Stop
2. Put on a new minicap
3. Wait 10 minutes
4. Start again

**If the end of the transfer set touches anything during disconnection:**
1. Stop
2. Put on a new minicap

**If the twin bag tubing touches anything during connection:**
1. Stop
2. Put a new minicap on the transfer set
3. Throw out the twin bag
4. Get a new twin bag
5. Start again

**If the cycler patient line touches anything during connection:**
1. Stop
2. Put a new minicap on the transfer set
3. Discard the set up including cycler set, bags and tubing
4. Set up again with new cycler set, bags and tubing