

Penrose

[Pen-rose](#)

A Penrose drain is a soft flexible tube that is placed in the wound that allows for the passive movement of fluid out of the wound. It is often used when a small amount of drainage is anticipated, typically in limbs.

Jackson-Pratt (JP)

[M. Jackson Rat](#)

This device is typically placed when a surgeon does not want fluid to build up around a surgical site after a surgery. There is a bulb that is connected to a tube, which is placed in the wound. It works by creating a negative pressure when the bulb is squeezed flat and then connected to the tube.

Hemovac

[Blood-vacuum](#)

A surgeon may place a hemovac drain, which is similar to a JP drain. However, this system can hold more fluid.

Considerations

Record Drainage Amounts

[Measuring-cup Recording Drainage](#)

Check and record the drainage amount according to facility policy or surgeon orders. If there is a sudden decrease or increase in the amount of drainage, then notify the provider. This could indicate the presence of a blockage or active bleeding.

Check Device Function

[Device Checklist](#)

Assess drainage devices frequently to ensure that the container is not full and it is still producing a vacuum effect. Make sure the device and tubes are secure and will not get caught resulting in dislodgement of the tube. The T-tube drainage system should be below the surgical site to avoid a backup of bile, which could lead to infection.