

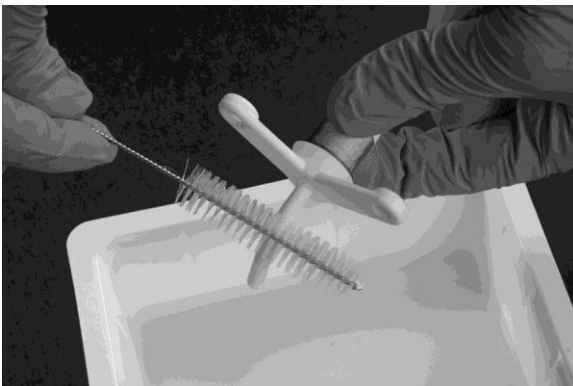
## Cleaning the trach tube

\_\_\_\_\_ My child has a Shiley<sup>®</sup> tracheostomy (trach) tube that I will throw away each time I change the trach.

\_\_\_\_\_ My child has a Bivona<sup>®</sup> trach that I will clean and reuse. The Bivona<sup>®</sup> trach may be cleaned with normal saline, dishwashing detergent, boiling, or sterilizing. The directions for cleaning are listed below.

### For Bivona<sup>®</sup> trachs

- Gather these supplies:
  1. Used trach (that was just removed)
  2. Obturator
  3. Soft brush found in the trach cleaning kit
  4. Normal saline
  5. Clean plastic bag
  6. Non-sterile gloves
- Wash hands with soap and water and dry them well. See “Do You Know... Clean hands.”
- Put on gloves.
- Inspect the tube. Throw away a trach tube that is cut or damaged. Contact St. Jude or your medical supply company if you throw away a trach so that it can be replaced.
- If the trach is going to be reused, gently wash the inside and outside of the trach tube using normal saline and the soft brush provided in the trach cleaning kit. (See photos below.) Be careful. Too much scrubbing or scraping may damage the tube.



*This document is not intended to take the place of the care and attention of your personal physician or other professional medical services. Our aim is to promote active participation in your care and treatment by providing information and education. Questions about individual health concerns or specific treatment options should be discussed with your physician.*

# *Do you know...* continued

## Cleaning the trach tube



- Rinse the tube with water (photo left) and set aside on clean paper towels to *fully* air dry.

- Gently wash and rinse the obturator (photos below) and set aside on clean paper towels to *fully* air dry.



**Trach tube and obturator drying on paper towel**

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## *Do you know...* continued

### **Cleaning the trach tube**

- Remove gloves, and wash hands with soap and water.
- When the trach tube and obturator are completely dry, store them in a clean plastic bag (photo right).



Anytime a trach tube is changed, the trach that was removed can be sent to St. Jude to be sterilized. Contact your clinical nurse specialist for guidelines on how to do this.

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