**Interventional Pulmonology**

**Tunneled Pleural Catheter Placement: Discharge Patient Information**

You have had a procedure called a tunneled pleural catheter (TPC) placement. A small tube was threaded under your skin, into your chest to drain fluid.

You will have a chest x-ray following the TPC placement to check for a complication and to see how the lung is expanding. You are being sent home today with a Pleurx Catheter Kit. Please follow all instructions and information in the instruction folder of this kit.

*Please follow these instructions as you recover today:*

* Rest today. You may go back to your usual activities tomorrow.
* You may eat and drink whatever you like.
* Please keep the bandage over the area dry today. You may remove it tomorrow.
* You may shower tomorrow if the dressing fully covers your catheter.
* If you have bleeding or drainage from the site, hold pressure over the area with a clean washcloth. If the bleeding does not stop, get help right away.

**Please call our office at 617-632-8252 with any of the following occur. In any emergency, such as new or ongoing chest pain, or severe shortness of breath, call 911.**

* Worsening shortness of breath
* Cough up blood
* Chest or back pain
* Redness or swelling at the site, or bleeding that does not stop with pressure
* A temperature of 101 or more

The sutures can be removed in 10-14 days if not absorbable. If the fluid from your catheter decreases substantially or you have changes in the characteristics of your fluid or if you are SOB even after drainage please call our office to schedule a follow-up appointment.