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How to Tell When You May Have a Problem with Your Voice Prosthesis

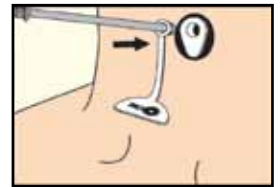
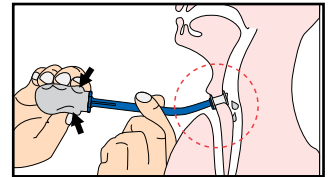
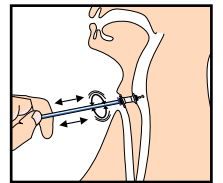


Signs of possible leakage with your voice prosthesis*

- You cough when you eat or drink
- Your mucus is the same color as the food or liquid you ate or drank

Follow these steps before calling your speech pathologist:

1. Stand in front of a mirror with a good light;
2. Clean your voice prosthesis as described in the product manual using the Provox Brush and/or Provox Flush;
3. To see if your prosthesis is leaking follow these steps:
 - a. Take a sip of colored liquid (i.e. milk, coffee, juice) so that it is easy to see;
 - b. Look to see if any of the liquid leaks through or around the prosthesis;
 - c. If nothing is leaking through take a larger sip of the liquid and check again;
 - d. If you cannot see your prosthesis clearly, ask someone to look for you.
4. If the leaking has stopped it might have been a bit of food or liquid keeping the valve open temporarily. Clean your voice prosthesis again following the instructions in the product manual;
5. If your prosthesis continues to leak and/or you cough while eating or drinking call your speech pathologist to have it checked. If the liquid is coming from the center of the prosthesis, then place a Provox Plug as described in the manual.



*If any problems are noticed that are not listed here, the patient should still take action and contact their speech pathologist.

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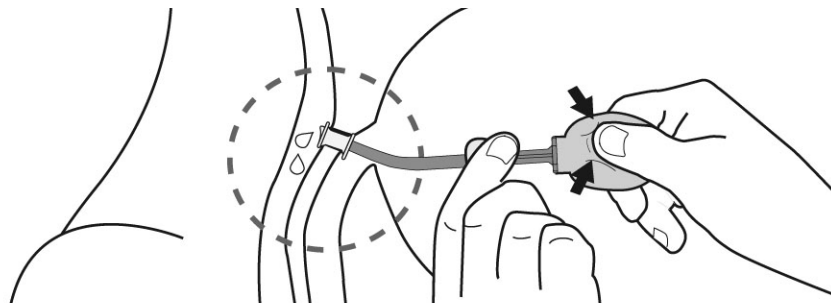
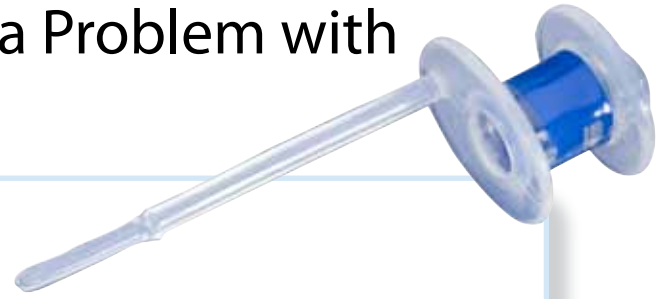
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Additional signs to look for*

- It is difficult to speak
- It feels hard to talk
- The sound of your voice and speech has changed
- Your voice prosthesis and the area around it looks different



Follow these steps before calling your speech pathologist:

1. Stand in front of a mirror with a good light;
2. Clean the voice prosthesis with the Provox Brush and/or Provox Flush as described in the manual;
3. Test your voice by saying “ah” and counting out loud from 1-15;
4. If your voice is better, then it may have been that there was mucus/food/liquid blocking the prosthesis; and
5. Call your speech pathologist as soon as possible if...
 - a. You have trouble inserting the brush;
 - b. You have blood on the brush;
 - c. You have trouble flushing the prosthesis; and/or
 - d. If any of the signs in the box above continue.



*If any problems are noticed that are not listed here, the patient should still take action and contact their speech pathologist.