What to do if your voice prosthesis falls out of the Tracheoesophageal Puncture (TEP)

Do not panic, assess the situation*

1. Are you having difficulty breathing?
   • If so, seek medical attention immediately

2. Is the voice prosthesis lost? Do you believe the voice prosthesis fell into your trachea (windpipe) and possibly into your lungs?
   • If so, seek medical attention immediately

3. Follow the below instructions from your clinician and/or physician on what to do in this situation (to be completed in coordination with your clinician and/or physician):
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________________________________________

4. No matter what your situation, try not to swallow. Saliva can pass through the tracheoesophageal puncture, into your windpipe and down into your lungs causing you to cough.

5. Your puncture can close in a matter of hours to days. Once you follow your clinician and/or physician’s instructions, please contact them as soon as possible and let them know what has happened.

Tip: Unless the puncture has closed naturally or is sealed by a catheter, you should still be able to talk by temporarily placing your thumb over your stoma opening and talking normally.

Tip: As a laryngectomee, always carry identification that you or a caregiver can present to first responders or emergency room personnel telling them that you breathe through a stoma in your neck and not your nose and mouth. It may be helpful to carry a small illustration showing where your voice prosthesis would normally be in place.

* If any problems are noticed that are not listed here, the patient should still take action. The reported incidence of Provox® voice prostheses falling out are rare.
Suggested items to carry with you

The following items can be useful to have on hand if your voice prosthesis falls out, and it is not in your windpipe or lungs:

• Something to keep the puncture open like an all purpose catheter, per your clinician’s instructions or prescription
• Water soluble lubricating jelly (Surgilube® or K-Y Jelly®)
• Emergency Card (shown below)

• Medical tape
• Mirror
• Flashlight
• Plastic blunt-tip tweezers
• Provox® Cleaning Towel

If you go to the Emergency Room, please bring this instruction sheet with you.

Front of Emergency Card: Complete the information and keep this card with you.

Inside
• Something to keep the puncture open
• Water soluble lubricating jelly
• Emergency Card (shown below)

• Medical tape
• Mirror
• Flashlight
• Plastic blunt-tip tweezers
• Provox® Cleaning Towel

This text does not replace or represent the complete contents of the Instructions For Use (IFU) and/or Prescriber Information for the products in this text. Therefore, before prescribing and/or using any of the products included in this text, please review the entire contents of the respective IFU and/or Prescriber Information.

www.atosmedical.us