

Reduce the risk of catheter associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI)

Catheter hygiene and maintenance

- Hand hygiene should be performed immediately before and after any contact with the service user and the catheter.
- A disposable apron and gloves should always be worn for all aspects of catheter care.



Maintain good personal hygiene

- The genital area and catheter tube should be washed daily and after each bowel movement.
- Wash from front to back to prevent contamination from faeces and clean the tubing in a direction away from the body.



- Check for any kinks and loops in the catheter tubing.
- Ensure that the drainage bag is securely fixed with an anchoring device and 2 leg straps, and is positioned below bladder level.
- Avoid any contact between the drainage bag and the floor.

- Catheter bags should be emptied when they are approximately 2/3 full.
- Avoid contact between the drainage tap and the container used for emptying the bag.
- Wipe the drainage tap with an alcohol wipe before/after opening.

- In the event of a bag becoming disconnected, always replace with a new bag.
- Overnight bags connected to a leg bag should be single use and disposed of after use.
- Take care not to touch the tip of the drainage tube when attaching an overnight bag.

Ensure adequate hydration

- At least 1.5 - 2 litres of fluid daily, unless fluid restricted.
- Record level of intake/output.



Is the catheter clinically indicated?

If not...Remove it!



For further information, please contact your local Infection Prevention and Control or UK Health Security Agency Team