



Procedure for changing a catheter leg bag in Care Home settings

Catheter leg bags should be changed weekly, or in line with manufacturers instructions. Each change should be documented in the resident's notes.



- Perform hand hygiene.
- Put on a disposable apron and gloves (eye protection should be used if there is a risk of splashing to the eyes).
- Explain the procedure to the resident.





- Ensure the catheter bag is empty prior to changing (see 'Procedure for emptying a catheter bag in Care Home settings').
- Release the leg bag by undoing the straps or removing from the bag holder.
- Pinch the end of the catheter drainage tube, avoiding touching the end of the catheter tube.
- Gently rotate and pull to remove the leg bag from the catheter.





- Remove the cap from the nozzle on the new bag and insert into the catheter, ensuring that the nozzle is not touched prior to inserting it into the catheter.
- Dispose of the old bag in the clinical waste stream.
- Remove PPE and perform hand hygiene.

Unnecessary emptying, changing or taking urine samples, increases the risk of Catheter Associated Urinary Tract infection, and inappropriate prescribing and should be avoided.