

Urinary Catheter Care
Knowledge Paper Answers

Urinary Catheter Care Knowledge Paper

1. What is the main role of a urinary catheter?

To drain the bladder of urine.

2. Can a PTFE (Teflon) Catheter be used for long term use?

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Yes

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No it is not suitable for long term use. Short term 28 days use.

3. Once inserted, why is it important to secure the catheter correctly?

The catheter should be secured appropriately to avoid kinking, twisting or pulling. This will reduce the risk of trauma.

4. Name the two main types of urinary catheter

Intermittent – this is where the catheter is temporarily inserted into the bladder and removed once the bladder is empty. It is used for people with a poorly functioning bladder or has difficulties in satisfactorily emptying or passing urine.

Indwelling – this is where the catheter remains in place for many days or weeks. There are two main types of indwelling catheter. A) Urethral Catheter B) Suprapubic

5. Who in the 1930s developed the design of catheter which is still used today?

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a. Tony

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b. Follett

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c. Foley (Fredrick)

☐

d. Follow

6. What is the name of the procedure where a urinary catheter is inserted in the bladder? And who should perform the procedure?

Catheterisation. It is a delicate and invasive clinical procedure which must be undertaken only by a trained, skilled competent health professional (NICE 2012).

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7. What is the length of a short or female catheter?

- ☐ a. 12 cm
- ☐ b. 23-25cm
- ☐ c. 48cm
- ☐ d. 18cm

8. What is the maximum time a long-term catheter can be in place?

Up to 12 weeks

9. Where are the kidneys located?

The two kidneys are a pair of purplish-brown organs located below the ribs toward the middle of the back.

10. Can you explain what is a closed urinary drainage system and why is it important?

A closed drainage system involves the catheter itself, the attached drainage tube and the urinary collection bag. The design of the modern urinary drainage system allows for the emptying due to a small valve or tap located at the base of the bag.

This means that the whole system can remain intact for longer periods of time. Staff therefore can ensure that access and breaks in the system be kept to the absolute minimum. Maintaining a closed urinary drainage system will reduce the risk of urinary infections. Maintaining a closed system has been shown to reduce the risk of infection by almost 40% in clients with a urinary catheter.

11. How long ideally should leg drainage bags be left in position as part of a closed drainage system

- ☐ a. They must be changed daily
- ☐ b. Every other day
- ☐ c. 12 weeks
- ☐ d. 5-7 days - leg bags once attached to the catheter should remain undisturbed unless they get dirty or damaged for at least 5 – 7 days.

12. Leaving urine in the drainage bag only increase the risk of what?

The spread of infection.

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13. What does the term Haematuria mean?

The evidence of blood in the urine.

14. When changing a client's urinary catheter drainage bag what are the first three things you should do?

- Explain the procedure and gain consent
- Maintain dignity and privacy at all times
- Wash and dry hands thoroughly

15. How should bed drainage bags be secured?

Once fitted, bed bags should be attached to a catheter holder or stand and placed on the floor next to the bed.

16. When attached should bed drainage bags be left in a bowl on the floor next to the client?

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Yes

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No - as this could increase the risk of infection

17. To prevent the risk of trauma how can urinary catheters be secured?

There are many devices available for this function, but in general there are two main types of devices. Adhesive devices or straps.

18. Name two problems with using straps as a method of retaining and securing the catheter.

- Straps can become loose and slide down the leg putting traction on the catheter.
- If there is a history of venous or arterial supply problems to the legs, then leg straps must not be used as it could reduce blood flow to that area and damage the skin.

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19. When a client is fitted with a catheter, what type of chart should be maintained, and fluid input and output recorded on it?

- ☐ a. Weight chart
- ☐ b. Food Chart
- ☐ c. Temperature chart
- ☐ d. Fluid balance chart

20. Your client is complaining of abdominal pain and you notice that the catheter is not draining. What should you do?

Report this to the person in charge. The catheter may be blocked, and it may need replacing.