

SFHCC02

Insert and secure urethral catheters



Overview

This standard covers the insertion and securing of indwelling urinary catheters via the urethra following agreed local protocols, procedures and guidelines. It does not include suprapubic catheterisation, intermittent catheterisation or trial without catheter which are covered by separate competences.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 obtain equipment and materials for individuals that meet their needs and the needs of local protocols and guidelines
- P2 apply standard precautions for infection prevention and control and take other appropriate health and safety measures
- P3 check equipment and materials to ensure they are safe and fit for purpose before usage
- P4 ensure that the environment is suitable for catheterisation to take place, and that comfort and dignity are maintained during and post procedure
- P5 obtain the individual's valid consent for the procedure
- P6 comply with the relevant protocols, procedures and guidelines relating to urethral catheterisation, product failure, malfunction or serious harm caused by product usage
- P7 remove the old catheter correctly and safely, check that the tip is intact and observe the level of encrustation
- P8 ensure the genital area is socially clean prior to cleansing
- P9 observe the meatus for any abnormalities and aseptically clean it for insertion of the urethral catheter
- P10 administer the appropriate lubrication or anaesthetic gel following manufacturers instructions
- P11 insert the catheter safely, aseptically and correctly, according to manufacturer's instructions and local protocols, with minimal discomfort to the individual and record the volume of urine drained
- P12 ensure that the catheter is in the correct position using the appropriate indicators before balloon inflation
- P13 inflate the balloon according to manufacturers instructions
- P14 attach the catheter correctly to the appropriate drainage system or catheter valve, and confirm it is secure and functioning correctly
- P15 dispose of the used catheter and associated equipment and materials safely and correctly
- P16 provide the individual and relevant others with the necessary information and support
- P17 record clearly, accurately, and correctly any relevant information in the ongoing catheter care records

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the current European and National legislation, national guidelines, organisational policies and protocols in accordance with clinical/corporate governance which affect your work practice in relation to inserting and securing urethral catheters
- K2 the importance of working within your sphere of competence and when to seek advice if faced with situations outside of your sphere of competence
- K3 the importance of documentation, the data protection act, care of records and disclosure of information with consent from the individual and your employer and the legal and professional consequences of poor practice
- K4 the anatomy and physiology of the male and female lower urinary tract in relation to lower urinary tract function and continence status including:
 - K4.1 urine production and what influences this
 - K4.2 normal micturition
 - K4.3 the nervous system including autonomic dysreflexia
 - K4.4 the bowel and its links to voiding problems
 - K4.5 the endocrine system
 - K4.6 sexual function and links to catheter usage
 - K4.7 the prostate gland, urethral sphincters and the urethra
 - K4.8 applied anatomy and physiology to voiding dysfunction and how a urethralurinary catheter could be used to relieve this
 - K4.9 anatomy and physiology links of how common catheter related complications occur
- K5 how to advise individuals in the use of catheters in relation to their anatomy, its function and sensation
- K6 how to obtain valid consent and how to confirm that sufficient information has been provided on which to base this judgement.
- K7 the importance of respecting individuals' privacy, dignity, wishes and beliefs and how to do so
- K8 those who may accompany the individual (e.g. carers, chaperones) and be present during the process and how to work with them
- K9 the methods of offering effective verbal and non-verbal support to individuals when you perform urethral catheterisation
- K10 the effects of urethral catheterisation on the individual's comfort and dignity
- K11 the ethical issues surrounding urethral catheterisation as applied to individuals
- K12 the causative factors which determine the need for a urethral urinary catheter
- K13 the reasons why individuals have planned catheter changes and how to initiate unplanned catheter changes because of blockage or other

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- complications
- K14 how to assess the function of a urethral catheter and the methods available to undertake this
- K15 how to minimise any unnecessary discomfort during and after the procedure
- K16 when not to proceed or abandon urethral catheterisation for an individual and what actions to take
- K17 the adverse effects and complications during urethral catheterisation and the appropriate actions to take
- K18 how to advise individuals using catheters in relation to lifestyle advice, maintaining catheter function, reducing infection, what to do in the event of problems with equipment and how to deal with common complications
- K19 the short and long term risks and health implications associated with urethral urinary catheterisation
- K20 why a risk assessment prior to the decision to catheterise is important and what contributes to this assessment
- K21 the types of catheters, urinary drainage bags, link systems, catheter valves, support methods, including garments, straps and stands that can be used with appropriate selection to meet individuals specific needs
- K22 how to obtain, store to maintain sterility, dispose of catheter care equipment and check is fit for purpose before usage
- K23 the types and use of lubrication and anaesthetic gels
- K24 the causes of urinary tract invasion from bacteria and how to minimise this in all care settings
- K25 the importance of applying standard precautions for infection control and the potential serious life threatening consequences of poor practice
- K26 how to meet standards of environmental cleanliness in the area where catheterisation is to take place to minimise the infection risk
- K27 when to undertake urinalysis, obtain a catheter specimen of urine (CSU) or screen for multi resistant bacteria

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB7 Interventions and treatments

It was developed in partnership with the Royal College of Nursing

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