



PATIENT CARE TIPS: Preventing UTI

Listed below are recommendations and reminders for prevention of urinary tract infection.

- **Remember to wash your hands or use the hand sanitizer before and after the catheter insertion procedure.**
- Wash the perineal area with soap and water before the catheter insertion procedure to remove debris.
- Use soap and water to perform catheter care daily and whenever necessary. Bag bath solution is not an acceptable substitute.
- Insert catheter using aseptic technique and sterile equipment; start over if you contaminate the area or the equipment.
- Label the Foley bag with date of insertion using a permanent marker.
- Use a Foley secure device (e.g., leg strap, tape) to secure the Foley to the leg to prevent tugging at the insertion site and possible dislodgment.
- Keep the Foley bag below the level of the bladder to assure proper drainage. **This is especially important during transport.**
- Maintain an unobstructed urine flow; check for kinking.
- Do not allow the Foley bag to lie on the floor.
- Do not let the emptying spout touch the container or floor when emptying the Foley bag. **If not done correctly it can lead to contamination of the Foley bag.**
- Check the placement of the Foley bag on the beds, **especially the new lower beds.** There are hangers at the head and foot of the beds for this purpose.
- The urine collection device should be labeled with the individual patient's name, room number and the date of first use. **New policy is to dispose of the container every 24 hours.** Wash hands or use hand sanitizer before glove placement; after procedure remove gloves and use hand sanitizer.
- Use aseptic technique when collecting urine specimens. Collect specimens as per manufacturer recommendations. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer before glove placement; after procedure remove gloves and use hand sanitizer.
- Maintain a "closed urinary system."

FOR REGISTERED NURSES:

- Check the perineum and tip of the penis daily for any signs of inflammation.
- Assess the need for the Foley on a daily basis. **Decreased Foley usage can decrease the risk of a urinary tract infection.**
- On the pathway, document the date of insertion, change or removal of the Foley.

All material presented or referenced herein is intended for general purposes and is not intended to provide or replace the independent judgment of a qualified healthcare provider treating a particular patient. Ohio KePRO disclaims any representation or warranty with respect to treatments or course of treatment based upon information provided. Publication No. 311201-OH-1974-07/2013. This material was provided by the Oklahoma Foundation for Medical Quality, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Oklahoma, and was prepared by Ohio KePRO, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Ohio, the Medicare Quality Improvement Organization for Ohio, under contract with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The contents presented do not necessarily reflect CMS policy.

