

Foley Catheter Care Instructions



Keep the large drainage bag attached to the catheter at all times.

- Changing the bag frequently can create complications in securing a good connection.
- Smaller drainage systems can fill up quickly and cause urine to back up in the bladder.
 - This can present incorrectly as a leaking catheter.
 - The patient may complain of discomfort or “feeling full.”
 - The bag should be emptied EVERY 2 HOURS to avoid backing up of urine.

Ensure the catheter, tubing and bag is free of any restrictions & is draining to gravity.

- Tubing can become twisted, pinched and clamped with transfers and activity.
- When lying in bed, urine can pool in the tubing, so it is important to check the drainage system every 2 hours.

Monitor the catheter system for the following:

- Increased sediment / particles in the bag and tubing
- Foul odor
- Blood tinged urine
- Dark urine

Report patient complaints of:

- Burning, pain, fullness, discomfort in the lower abdomen, tugging or pulling

REPORT THESE SYMPTOMS TO THE FACILITY NURSE & CONTACT THE HOME HEALTH NURSING STAFF FOR DIRECTION.