INDWELLING CATHETER

An indwelling urinary catheter has two parts. The first part is a tube that drains urine from your bladder. The second part is a bag or other device that collects the urine.

The most important thing to remember is that you want to prevent infection. Always wash your hands before handling your catheter bag or tubing.

YOU MAY EXPERIENCE:

Burning at the tip of the penis or in the urethral area is common and can usually be relieved with a small amount of petroleum jelly or other mild ointment to provide lubrication.

It is common for the urine to be bloody at times, especially after physical activity. Drink lots of fluids to wash the blood through.

The catheter is held in place by a balloon at the tip. Sometimes the balloon stimulates spasms in the bladder giving an intense urge to void. Do not be concerned if they are mild.

REMINDER

Make a follow-up appointment with your doctor as directed.

Further instructions:

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JOSEPH BRANT HOSPITAL

Caring For Your Indwelling Catheter

Patient Education

Surgical Services Patient Education

10/05/2018

HOW DO I CARE FOR MYSELF?

DRAINING THE BEDSIDE BAG:

1. Wash your hands with soap and clean, running water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

2. Hold the drainage tube over a toilet or measuring container.

3. Unclamp the tube and let the bag drain.

4. Don't touch the tip of the drainage tube or let it touch the toilet or container.

EMPTYING A LEG BAG:

1. Wash your hands.
2. Open the valve at the bottom of the bag.
3. Drain the bag into the toilet or a measuring container. Don't let the tip of the drainage tube touch anything, including your fingers.
4. Clean the tip of the drainage tube with alcohol

CALL YOUR DOCTOR IF:
• Have a fever higher than 38.5 °C or 101 °F

• Have severe bladder spasms. Sometimes medication can be used to provide relief

• Blood clots plug the catheter.

• Your catheter comes out

• There is no urine draining into the bag

• It is common for the urine to have a strong odour but if it smells especially foul, contact your doctor