

Catheters can be very irritating:

- Being too active can cause bleeding
- The longer the catheters remain, the higher the incidence of infections
- Long term catheters can cause damage to the urethra and considering a Supra-pubic Catheter may be a better option.

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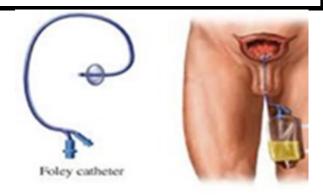
PATIENT INFORMATION BROCHURE

INDWELLING URETHRAL CATHETER

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Patient well-being is my first priority!

Indwelling Urethral Catheter



Non invasive placement of an a silicone tube which is secured inside the bladder and attached to a drainage bag on the outside, in order to drain an obstructed bladder.

Why is it done?

- This can be placed as an emergency for patients in acute urinary retention
 - Prostate obstruction
 - Urethral strictures
 - Blood clot obstruction caused by bleeding
 - Hematuria (bleeding)
 - Severe urinary tract infections
- Commonly placed intra-operatively for long, non-urological surgical procedures to enable urine drainage and monitoring urine output. prostatectomy) is too high risk for you
- Commonly placed at the end of a Urological procedure to enable urine drainage and to enable hemostatsis (stopping bleeding)

How is it done?

- This is done as a sterile procedure, therefore the genital area will be cleaned with a non-abrasive dis-infectant.
- A sterile catheter will be used
- Local anaesthetic gel is placed in the urethra a few minutes prior to the placement of the catheter. This may initially sting for a few seconds until it numbs the mucosa.
- An appropriate size catheter (14-18Fr) will be inserted
- Urine should be aspirated with a syringe to confirm a correct position in the bladder.
- An anchoring balloon will be inflated with 10cc of sterile water.
- A drainage urine bag will be attached
- The catheter will be secured to your leg. (check that this is always secured)

What can go wrong?

- You may still have some sensation in the urethra with resulting discomfort.
- In the presence of a urethral stricture, it may be impossible to pass the catheter, and a flexible cystoscopy with dilatation of the stricture may be required prior to placement.
- If you had a large over-stretched bladder (urine retention) you may experience bleeding as the bladder empties, caused by the mucosal tears that have occurred.
- Catheters that have been placed long term, may cause irritation and possibly attract infection. Permanent catheters are usually changed every 6-8 weeks.

What next?

- Usually your catheter will be removed on a scheduled basis depending on the procedure you have had.
- If it was placed for retention of urine, a trial on alpha-blockers will be initiated for a couple of weeks prior to a trial of void.
- Should the trial of void be unsuccessful, Jo will discuss options in treatment of your cause for retention in detail at a next appointment.
- A ward prescription may be issued on your discharge, for your own collection at any pharmacy
- A follow-up appointment will be scheduled for couple of weeks, depending on availability.
- Don't hesitate to ask me if you have any queries
- DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE, OR YOU WILL SUFFER ALONE!

