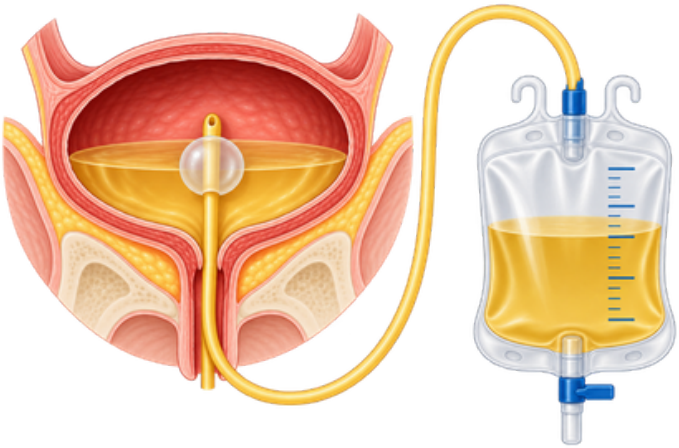
PAVILION HEALTHCARE

Foley Catheter Care

Resident & Caregiver Education Sheet

What is a Foley Catheter?

A Foley catheter is a soft tube that drains urine from your bladder into a collection bag. A small balloon holds it in place.



Caring for Your Catheter

- Wear disposable gloves when performing catheter care or emptying the drainage bag.
- Wash your hands before putting on gloves and after removing them.
- Clean around the catheter daily with mild soap and water. Rinse and pat dry.
- Keep your catheter secured to your leg.
- Avoid pulling or twisting the tubing. Do not disconnect or remove your catheter unless instructed.

Caring for Your Drainage Bag

- Keep the bag below bladder level and off the floor.
- Keep tubing free of bends and kinks. Empty the bag when half to two-thirds full.
- Do not touch the drainage spout to the toilet or container.
- Close the spout securely after emptying.

Preventing Infection

- Drink fluids as recommended by your healthcare provider.
- Practice good personal hygiene. Keep the drainage bag off the floor. Avoid powders, lotions, or creams around the catheter unless instructed.
- Never remove or replace your catheter yourself unless specifically trained and instructed to do so. Follow your healthcare provider's instructions for catheter care, bag changes, and follow-up appointments.

When to Contact Your Healthcare Provider

Call your healthcare provider if you notice:

- Fever or chills
- New lower abdominal or back pain
- Cloudy or foul-smelling urine with other symptoms
- Blood in your urine
- Urine leaking around the catheter
- Little or no urine draining into the bag

Seek Immediate Medical Help

- No urine draining with severe lower abdominal pain
- Catheter falls out
- Severe pain, heavy bleeding, or other serious symptoms

Questions or Concerns?

This guide is for educational purposes only and does not replace medical advice. Contact your healthcare provider if you have any questions or concerns about your Foley catheter or its care.