

## SUPRAPUBIC CATHETER CARE

PURPOSE:

1. To cleanse around Indwelling Catheter.
2. To prevent irritation to skin.
3. To lessen the occurrence of infection.

EQUIPMENT:

- Warm water and soap without lotions or perfumes in it.
- Clean washcloth or sterile gauze bandage.
- Clean towel.
- New gauze bandage.
- Sterile (clean) medical gloves.
- Trash can.

PROCEDURE:

1. Wash your hands using soap, or use a hand cleaner. Put on clean gloves.
2. Gently remove the bandage. Do this by supporting the skin around the stoma with one hand. With the other hand, gently remove any adhesive tape by pulling in the direction of hair growth. Throw the bandage away in the trash can.
3. Look for problems such as redness, separation of skin, red spots and swelling. Report any skin changes to the physician. Throw away your used gloves. Wash your hands, and put on clean gloves.
4. Clean the area with soap and water.
5. Hold the end of the catheter tube in place to keep it from being pulled out while cleaning.
6. Wash the catheter to remove blood or other material, moving away from the stoma.
7. Rinse the stoma and the skin around it in a circular manner, moving away from the stoma.
8. Pat the area gently with a clean towel to dry it.
9. Throw away your used gloves. Wash your hands, and put on clean gloves. If you use a bandage, apply a new one.

## Section 8.14

10. Loop the catheter tubing and secure it well. Avoid kinking or blocking the tubing. Throw away your used gloves. Wash your hands.
11. Record catheter care and any pertinent information.

NOTE: A suprapubic catheter usually needs to be changed every 4 to 10 weeks. Be sure there are no kinks or bends in the tubing. Urine will not drain if this happens. Keep the urine bag below the level of the bladder (below waist level).

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