



Appendix G. Urinary Catheter Project Fact Sheet



Urinary Catheter Project

Background

- 600,000 patients develop hospital-acquired urinary tract infections per year.
- 80% of these are urinary catheter associated.
- Approximately half of the patients with a urinary catheter do not have a valid indication for placement.
- Each day a urinary catheter remains, the risk of a catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) increases 5%.

Goals

- To decrease CAUTI
- To improve patient safety
- To teach nurses the indications for urinary catheter use
- To reduce the unnecessary use of urinary catheters in the inpatient setting

Prevention of CAUTI

Follow criteria indicated for a urinary catheter:

- Acute urinary retention or obstruction
- Perioperative use in selected surgeries
- Assistance in healing of severe perineal and sacral wounds in incontinent patients
- Hospice/comfort care/palliative care
- Required immobilization for trauma or surgery
- Accurate measurement of urinary output in critically ill patients (intensive care)



**Remember:
promptly
remove
unnecessary
urinary
catheters!**