

7-14-25 Weekly Clinical Update

During this past week, there was a fascinating topic included in the LTC National Infection Prevention Forum related to urinary catheters...including suprapubic catheters. In one of the entries, a training program from AHRQ was included as an attachment. [Catheter Care and Maintenance | Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](#).

There are 2 slides of particular interest...slides 7 and 8:

The DO's of Indwelling Urinary Catheter Care^{2,3,6,7}

- **Do** perform peri-care using only soap and water
- **Do** keep the catheter and tubing from kinking and becoming obstructed
- **Do** keep catheter systems closed when using urine collection bags or leg bags
- **Do** replace catheters and collection bags that become disconnected
- **Do** ensure the resident's identifier/implementation date is on their urine collection containers
- **Do** make sure to disinfect the sampling port before obtaining a sample

WHEELS SAFETY PREVENTION FROM FALLS, TURNS, TURNS, FALLS, WHEELS, FALLS

CATHETER CARE (7/1)

The DON'Ts of Indwelling Urinary Catheter Care^{2,3,6,7}

- **Don't** change catheters or drainage bags at routine, fixed intervals
- **Don't** administer routine antimicrobial prophylaxis
- **Don't** use antiseptics to cleanse the periurethral area while a catheter is in place
- **Don't** clean the periurethral area vigorously
- **Don't** irrigate the bladder with antimicrobials
- **Don't** instill antiseptic or antimicrobial solutions into drainage bags
- **Don't** routinely screen for asymptomatic bacteriuria
- **Don't** contaminate the catheter outlet valve during collection bag emptying

WHEELS SAFETY PREVENTION FROM FALLS, TURNS, TURNS, FALLS, WHEELS, FALLS

CATHETER CARE (7/2)

Notice the recommendation that catheters and drainage bags should NOT be changed at "routine, fixed intervals"

CDC is no longer recommended routine changing of urinary catheters either. [Summary of Recommendations | Infection Control | CDC](#)

III.E.	Changing indwelling catheters or drainage bags at routine, fixed intervals is not recommended. Rather, it is suggested to change catheters and drainage bags based on clinical indications such as infection, obstruction, or when the closed system is compromised.	II
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This may be a good time to review your facility policies and procedures to make sure your facility is following “evidence-based best practices” and following CDC & AHRQ guidelines. This information should also be shared with ordering practitioners if orders are received for specific catheter changing schedules.

FYI: There is a plethora of information in the web site links shared.