

CARE OF THE FOLEY CATHETER AT HOME

Your doctor feels you can return home, but your Foley catheter will have to stay in your bladder for the next few days or weeks. This rubber tube allows for continuous urine drainage, so you will not need to use a bedpan or toilet. There is a balloon on one end of the catheter that holds it inside your bladder.

Prior to your discharge from the hospital, your nurse will give you instructions about the care of your Foley catheter and drainage bags. If you follow these instructions carefully, you will reduce the chances of infection from occurring.

I. Foley Catheter Care

A. Supplies

1. Bacitracin
2. Q-tips

B. Procedure

1. Wash hands
2. Use soap and water to wash area around your catheter and tip of your penis.
3. Use Q-tip to apply Bacitracin at tip of catheter and of penis
4. Do this procedure twice (2x) a day
5. This will help keep the area from becoming irritated or infected

II. Leg Bag

This is a small plastic bag that collects urine drainage from your catheter. It is attached to your Foley catheter and strapped around your thigh (see illustration).



1. The leg bag allows you to move around more easily because it is smaller.
2. You must empty it every 3-4 hours.
3. Wash your hands before you empty the bag.
4. Release the stopper to drain out all the urine.
5. When urine is drained out completely, swab the drain port with an alcohol sponge.
6. Replace the stopper.

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