

## Staff Huddle: Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI's)-Week # 1

**What is the Risk?** The urinary catheter is a medical device that can be used in a patient. When a urinary catheter is used in a patient, germs on the device can spread into the body of the patient. Know the symptoms of catheter associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI's)-

### Symptoms

- Blood in the urine
- Urine leakage around the catheter
- Pressure, pain, or discomfort in the lower back or stomach
- Chills
- Fever
- Unexplained fatigue
- Vomiting



## Staff Huddle: Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI's)-Week # 2

Do you know what you can do to reduce (CAUTI's)?

- Clean your hands immediately before and after any care of the catheter device or site.
- Use Standard Precautions, including the use of gloves and gown as appropriate, during any touching of the catheter or collecting system. A mask with eye protection may be needed if urine might splatter, for example during emptying of the collection bag or closing the drainage spigot.
- Inform your charge nurse or medical provider when you identify that a patient/resident's catheter is obstructed.
- Inform your charge nurse or medical provider when you identify that a patient/resident with a catheter is showing signs of infection (signs of infection shown above).
- Routine cleaning of the urethra during bathing or showering is recommended.



## Staff Huddle: Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI's)-Week # 3

Do you know what you can do to reduce (CAUTI's)?

### Prevention continued:

- Routine cleaning of the meatal surface during daily bathing or showering is appropriate.
- Always keep the drainage bag below the bladder and do not rest the drainage bag on the floor.
- Make sure there is nothing blocking or obstructing urine flow.
- Keep the catheter and collecting tube free from kinking.
- Empty the collecting bag regularly using a separate, clean collecting, container for each patient.
- Avoid splashing and prevent contact of the drainage spigot with the non-sterile collecting container.



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## Staff Huddle: Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI's)-Week # 4

What can you teach your residents/patients with urinary catheters?

### Management:

- Clean your hands before and after touching the catheter.
- Check the position of the urine bag; it should always be below the level of the bladder.
- Do not tug or pull on the tubing.
- Do not twist or kink the catheter tubing.
- Only use antibiotics when prescribed by your medical provider.



## References:

1. <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines>
2. [Germs can live on devices \(cdc.gov\)](#)
3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2015, November 5). *Background*. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/guidelines/cauti/background.html>.
4. *Guideline for prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract ...* (n.d.). Retrieved November 16, 2022, from <https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/cauti-guidelines-H.pdf>
5. *North Dakota Department of Health*. (n.d.). Retrieved November 16, 2022, from [http://ndhealth.gov/disease/hai/Presentation/Catherter\\_Association.pdf](http://ndhealth.gov/disease/hai/Presentation/Catherter_Association.pdf)