

Mosby: Mosby's Nursing Video Skills

Procedure Guidelines for Applying a Condom Catheter (external urinary catheter)

1. Perform hand hygiene.
2. Provide for the patient's privacy by closing the door and drawing the bedside curtain around the patient.
3. Introduce yourself to the patient and family, if present.
4. Verify the health care provider's orders.
5. Identify the patient using two identifiers, such as the patient's name and date of birth or name and account number, according to agency policy. Compare these identifiers with information on the patient's identification bracelet.
6. Gather the necessary equipment and supplies.
7. Raise the bed to an appropriate working height. Lower the side rail on your side.
8. Assist the patient into a supine or sitting position. Drape a bath blanket over the patient.
9. Apply gloves. Prepare the urinary drainage collection bag and tubing. You can select either a large-volume drainage bag or a leg bag. Clamp off the drainage bag port. Place the drainage bag nearby, ready to attach to the condom catheter after it is applied.
10. After draping the patient appropriately, perform perineal care. As you proceed, assess the penis for rashes or skin breakdown. Dry the penis thoroughly. In an uncircumcised patient, return the foreskin to its normal position before applying the condom catheter. Do not apply barrier cream. Apply a skin preparation solution and hair guard if present (per the manufacturer's instructions).
11. An alternative to a hair guard is simply to cut or tear a hole in a paper towel, place it over the penis, and remove it after applying the device. Clip the patient's hair at the base of the penis, as necessary, before applying the condom sheath. Clip hair only if allowed per agency policy.
12. Apply the condom catheter. With your nondominant hand, grasp the penis along the shaft. With your dominant hand, hold the rolled condom sheath at the tip of the penis, with the head of the penis in the cone. Smoothly roll the sheath onto the penis. Allow 2.5 to 5 cm (1 to 2 inches) of space between the tip of the glans penis and the end of the condom catheter.
 - A. Secure the condom catheter as indicated in the manufacturer's guidelines: If you are using a self-adhesive condom catheter, gently apply pressure on the penile shaft for 10 to 15 seconds to secure the catheter after it is placed.
 - B. If you are using a condom catheter with an outer securing strip, spiral wrap the penile shaft with the strip of elastic adhesive supplied by the manufacturer. The strip should not overlap itself and should be snug, not tight.
13. Apply the appropriate securement device for securing the tubing to the patient's leg or abdomen. Remove the hair guard if used, and connect the drainage tubing to the end of the condom catheter. Be sure that the condom is not twisted. Secure the tubing to the inner thigh with some slack for movement. If you are using a large drainage bag, place any excess tubing on the bed and secure the tubing to the bottom sheet of linen.

14. If using a leg bag, attach one end to the condom catheter and the other end to the leg bag. Then attach the bag to the patient's leg with the straps.
15. Help the patient into a safe, comfortable position. Lower the bed, and adjust the side rails for safety.
16. Dispose of all contaminated supplies including the bath blanket. Remove your gloves, and perform hand hygiene.
17. Place toiletries and personal items within reach.
18. Make sure the patient knows how to use the call light to summon assistance.
19. For follow-up care, assess the penis within 15-30 minutes of application of condom catheter. Check for swelling or discoloration. Ask the patient if he is experiencing any discomfort.
20. Remove and reapply the condom catheter daily, following the steps just listed, unless an extended-wear device is being used. Reassess the skin of the penis at least once a day when performing hygiene or changing the catheter.
21. Apply gloves. To remove the catheter, gently roll the sheath and adhesive off the penile shaft. After removing the condom catheter, wash the penis with warm, soapy water.
22. Remove gloves and perform hand hygiene.
23. Document and report the patient's response and expected or unexpected outcomes.