Patient & Family Guide

After Urinary Catheter Removal



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Your urinary catheter (tube in your bladder) was taken out of your bladder today.

What can I expect?

- These symptoms are common and should go away in the next 48 hours (2 days):
 - Burning and/or stinging feeling when you urinate (pee)
 - Having to urinate more often and/or needing to urinate right away
 - Leakage or not able to hold urine in. Unless you had this problem before the catheter was put in, this should get better over time.
- Please tell your nurse if you see blood:
 - > at the start of your urine stream.
 - > throughout your urine stream.
 - > at the end of your urine stream.

This will go away over time.

If these symptoms do not get better after 48 hours (2 days), tell a member of your health care team. If you are at home, call your primary health care provider.

What can I do to help?

- Drink 8 glasses or more of water a day. Try to drink 1 glass every hour until bedtime. Drinking fluids (water, juice, or non-caffeinated drinks) will help your bladder start to work normally again. Some people with other medical conditions or who are on certain medications should not drink more fluids than usual. Check with your health care provider about the safe amount of fluids for you.
- While you are in the hospital, save your urine in a urinal (also called a 'hat') so the nurse can measure it. Use the call bell to tell your nurse that you urinated so they can measure it and write down how often you are urinating.
- If you are at home, measuring the amount of urine will help you know how well your bladder is working. It may help to write down to talk about with at your next appointment.

At home:

After you are discharged, if you do not have a follow-up appointment booked at the Urology Clinic, visit your primary health care provider if you have any questions or concerns.

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Learn about other programs and services in your community: call 211 or visit http://ns.211.ca

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