

Catheter Care - for you to successfully demonstrate this skill you need to:

- Use S.W.I.P.E.S. Communications / Client Rights and Common Care Practice Skills
- Test water temperature in basin. Determine if water temperature is safe and verify with client it is comfortable adjust if necessary
- Keep water in basin soap-free for use as rinse water by: (1) washing with washcloth with soap and apply directly to the washcloth instead of adding soap into the basin of water; or (2 using two separate basins of water: one for washing and one for rinsing
- Minimize exposure of the client's body during care
- Wear gloves, before handling catheter, tubing, urinary drainage bag or beginning cleansing and throughout the procedure while providing catheter care, while rinsing and drying equipment and handling soiled linens.
- **Position client a safe distance from the edge of the bed if turned on side during care**
- Place towel or pad under catheter tubing before washing as to not get client's sheets or clothing wet during cleaning
- Uncover area surrounding catheter only
- Use soapy washcloth to cleanse catheter

- Change spot on washcloth for each washing and rinsing stroke. Do not tug catheter. Hold catheter near opening where it enters the body to avoid tugging it
- Clean at least four inches of the catheter nearest the opening of the urethra, moving from the opening downwards away from the body. Use a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke
- Using a different washcloth, rinse at least four inches of the catheter nearest the opening, move from the opening downwards away from the body, using a clean area of the washcloth for each stroke
- Pat dry any area of client's skin that may have gotten wet
- Leave skin areas that become wet during care and bed sheets dry at completion of care
- Keep the urinary drainage bag positioned lower than bladder throughout care and at the end of the procedure. Make sure there are no kinks in catheter tubing
- Dispose of towels and other items in proper containers .
- Leave client covered with top sheet at the end of care
- Remove and dispose of gloves and wash hands
- **For the HCA skills test the client is lying in bed while this care is provided.**