



# Indwelling Urinary Catheter

## Do's and Dont's

- **DO** 
  - Secure catheters to the thigh to prevent movement and urethral trauma
  - Perform meatal care with soap and water daily and after defecation
  - Maintain a sterile/closed drainage system.
  - Avoid disconnecting the catheter from the drainage bag
  - Use aseptic technique when collecting specimens from the sterile port
  - Request orders to discontinue a catheter if the indications no longer exist
  - Maintain the drainage bag below the level of the bladder
- **DON'T** 
  - Use a catheter for management of the patient with incontinence
  - Insert or discontinue a catheter without an order
  - Raise the drainage bag above the level of the bladder (e.g. during positioning or transport)
  - Don't place bag on the floor
  - Change catheter or collection bag routinely
  - Irrigate unless necessary and discard irrigation solution after single use unless otherwise noted
  - Wait until patient is transferred to discontinue catheter