

## Urinary catheter patency solutions – Do you use them?

October – November 2010

Number of responses = 53

1) Do you use catheter patency solutions (also known as bladder wash outs) for any of the following? (many\_of)

answer	votes	% of voters
Partial or complete blockage due to cell debris or blood clots	43	81
Partial or complete blockage due to encrustations	32	60
Other (please add details in the comments section below)	1	2
Do not use catheter patency solutions	7	13

2) Do you use the *antiseptic* catheter patency solutions? (one\_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
Yes, routinely for all types of blockage	8	15%
Yes, but only for encrustation-related blockages	3	6%
Yes, but only on specialist recommendation	4	8%
No	36	68%

3) Which would be your first line catheter patency solution to treat and prevent further blockages due to cell debris or blood clots? (one\_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
Sodium chloride 0.9% (saline)	39	74%
Solution G	4	8%
Solution R	0	0%
Chlorhexidine 0.02%	1	2%
Other (please add details in the comments section below)	1	2%
Do not use for this indication	5	9%

4) Which would be your first line catheter patency solution to *treat* blockages due to encrustation? (one\_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
Sodium chloride 0.9% (saline)	28	53%
Solution G	12	23%
Solution R	2	4%
Chlorhexidine 0.02%	0	0%
Other (please add details in the comments section below)	1	2%
Do not use for this indication	9	17%

5) Which would be your first line catheter patency solution to *prevent further* blockages due to encrustation? (one\_of)

answer	votes	% of vote
Sodium chloride 0.9% (saline)	27	51%
Solution G	10	19%
Solution R	1	2%
Chlorhexidine 0.02%	1	2%
Other (please add details in the comments section below)	0	0%
Do not use for this indication	13	25%

6) For sodium chloride 0.9% (saline) catheter patency solutions, how often do you administer them?

10 responders administer them daily, some less frequently e.g. every 2–3 days, and the majority (16) p.r.n.

7) Do you routinely use any oral urinary antiseptics or urine-acidifying agents to reduce catheter blockage? (many\_of)

answer	votes	% of voters
Cranberry juice or cranberry capsules	13	25
Methenamine (hippurate or mandelate)	0	0
Nitrofurantoin	4	8
No	38	72

8) Please add any further comments regarding the use of catheter patency solutions in palliative care patients (freetext)

We probably use them less often than we used to (5 years ago). Re question 7) one patient who comes for respite visits uses ascorbic acid 1g qds for this indication (started by GP).

Re question 7). We use nitrofurantoin for the first time we put in the catheter for 3-5days and then if there is too much of debri or occurrence of fever for which no other cause is found.

For all causes use normal saline first line, solution G second line.

Do not use catheter patency solutions in our community organisation. If a catheter is blocked it is removed and replaced (if indicated).

Suby G used every 2 days for persistent high pH.

I'm not sure I have much knowledge in this area - tend to do either what I've seen before or prescribe at suggestion of nursing team.

Currently using Suby G weekly for catheter patency on a gentleman with good results.

Supra pubic catheters can become encrusted at site not allowing proper catheter care so site cleaned with saline and we use Instillagel in to site to gain mobility of catheter.