Foley Catheter Care—How to help prevent infections?

Your child has a foley catheter. See picture. A foley catheter is a thin tube that is put into the urethra (1) to drain urine from the urinary bladder (2). The tip of the catheter has a small balloon (3). This balloon is filled with water to help keep the catheter in the bladder. The tube that drains is connected to a bag that collects the urine (4). The tubing (5) is taped to the skin on the inside of the leg to keep it from moving or being pulled.

How can you help us take care of the foley catheter?

1. Remind everyone to wash their hands or wear gloves before touching the catheter.

2. If you see any of the following, call your nurse or doctor right away:
   a. If the tubing is bent or blocked.
   b. If there are any leaks.
   c. If the catheter comes out.
   d. If the collection bag is above the bladder.
   e. If the collecting bag is above the bed and the patient is lying down.
   f. If the collecting bag is resting on the floor.
   g. If the tubing is not taped to the skin and moving around.

3. Ask your doctor or nurse if your child still needs the foley catheter and when can you work to get it removed.

Have more questions about your child foley catheter?
Please talk to your doctor or nurse and they will answer any other questions you have.