

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. External catheter collection systems (ECCS) are condom-type sheaths that are placed over the penis for urine collection. These devices are referred to as condom catheters, “Texas” catheters, penile sheaths or external male catheters. There are latex free products available for patients with allergies.
2. ECCS is an option for males with uncontrolled urinary incontinence (UI) who do NOT have overflow UI, neurologic bladder, or significant amount of residual urine.
3. Advantages of ECCS as opposed to indwelling catheter are there is no urethral interference or stricture, less incidence of urinary tract infection (UTI) and less discomfort.
4. The size of penis (width and length or circumference and length) must be determined to order the correct size. Each manufacturer of these products has measuring guides that should be used. To measure the penis it must be relaxed. To measure length, extend penis gently forward and measure halfway down the shaft of the penis and find the closest size.
5. The wear-time for an external catheter varies from 24 to 48 hours, depending on the product design, patient tolerance and manufacturer’s specifications.
6. Nothing should be applied to penile shaft circumferentially (tape, string, rubber bands) because this may cause ulcerations, pressure and circulation constriction.
7. Generally skin protective wipe should be applied to the penis shaft to protect against skin breakdown from the repeated application and removal of the ECCS devices.
8. When foreskin is present, it is important to retract to clean, but once cleaned it needs to be put back in place to prevent a phimosis, which is a constriction of the penis.
9. There are a variety of products and manufacturer’s instructions should be followed. The categories are:
 - a. Self-adhesive catheters
 - b. Two-piece systems
 - c. Non adhesive catheters
 - d. External Pouches (retracted penis pouch)
 - e. External continence device (liberty pouch)
 - f. Reusable ECCS: (pubic pressure urinals)

EQUIPMENT:

ECCS device
Drainage bag and tubing
Extension catheter (optional)
Securement device
Scissors
Gloves
Soap, water and basin
Washcloth/towel
Skin barrier wipes

PROCEDURE:

1. Adhere to Standard Precautions.
2. Explain procedure to patient.
3. Prepare equipment at bedside.
4. Assist patient to a supine position. Place towel or waterproof pad underneath buttocks.
[Note: Patient may learn to do this himself so a comfortable sitting or standing position may be necessary]
5. Cleanse penis using mild soap (avoid soaps with moisturizers as may affect adhesion of device) and water, and dry. If patient is not circumcised, retract the foreskin and cleanse meatus. Rinse and dry. It is imperative that the foreskin is returned into position and not left retracted, as this will impair circulation to penis. Drape the patient for privacy.
6. Apply skin barrier wipe to the penis allow to air dry (if tacky to touch it is not dry, allow more time to dry).
7. Clip all hair from the area because it will interfere with adhesion and pain with removal. Do not shave as it increases risk of skin irritation.
8. Follow manufacturer’s direction about specific application, but generally the external/condom catheter is rolled onto the penis. The head of the penis should fit in the cone of the sheath but not rub against the bulb.
9. As the external catheter is unrolled, gently squeeze the sheath all around the penis to seal adhesive to the skin. This will secure the catheter in place.
[Note: A few air bubbles may remain. This is normal.]
10. If there is extra loose material in the sheath, pinch it together so that it sticks to itself. If there are too many wrinkles on the sheath, try a smaller size.
11. Connect the drainage system to the external catheter. Consider using extension tubing attached to drainage bag to prevent pulling and increase wear time.
12. Connection should be secure. May use leg bag during day and night drainage when in bed.
13. Apply securement device (e.g. leg strap, stat lock) as appropriate. Be sure that the system is connected so there is no “tugging” as this will decrease wear time by causing leaking.
14. Assess color of penis to insure good circulation.
15. Discard soiled supplies in appropriate containers.

RETRACTED PENIS POUCH APPLICATION

PROCEDURE:

1. Follow above Steps 1, 2,3,4,5.
2. Apply skin prep to the area of adhesion around the penis.
3. Cut opening in the adhesive surface to the size of the base of penis. May use stomahesive paste and /or strips. This may help decrease leaking and increase wear time.

4. Apply pouch by pressing gently but firmly into place.
5. Attach external tubing and/or drainage device to the pouch.
6. Apply securement device (e.g. leg strap, stat lock) as appropriate. Be sure that the system is connected so there is no “tugging” as this will decrease wear time by causing leaking.
7. Discard soiled supplies in appropriate containers.

AFTER CARE:

1. Document in patient's record:
 - a. Procedure and observations
 - b. Patient's response to procedure
 - c. Instructions given to patient/caregiver
2. Instruct patient and caregiver the following:
 - a. Signs and symptoms of infection
 - b. Assess of skin breakdown and how to prevent breakdown
 - c. Use skin protectant to prevent maceration and irritation
 - d. Avoid constriction and impaired circulation of the penis by never wrapping anything around the entire penis
 - e. How to change and order supplies

REFERENCE:

Perry, A., Potter, P., & Elkin, M. (2012). Nursing Interventions & Clinical Skills, 5th edition. St. Louis: Elsevier/Mosby

Adopted VNAA: Approved Policy Committee 01/14/14