

Home Catheter Removal

When your child goes home with a catheter, you may be asked to do what we call "Home Catheter Removal" or "Parental Catheter Removal". This is a simple procedure which allows the catheter to be removed in the child's own environment and prevent you needing to come back to the Hospital.

Is it safe to remove the catheter at home?

The catheter is held in with a balloon which is filled with water once the catheter has been passed into the bladder. Traditionally, catheters were removed by attaching a syringe to the port on the end of the catheter and aspirating the water out. However, sometimes a small amount of water can be left behind or the balloon can "bunch up" meaning it can be uncomfortable when the catheter is removed. Additionally, this method is generally carried out by trained healthcare professionals, which often means you need to come back to the hospital to have your catheter removed.

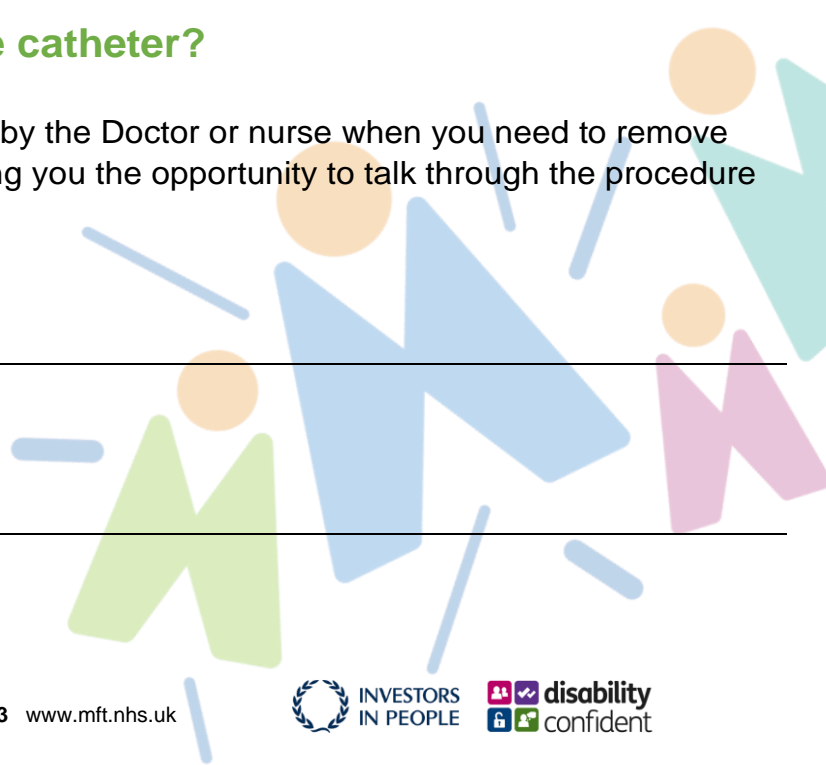
For certain patients, we advocate a different method of removal (known as balloon port cutting) which our research shows is very safe and easy to do, and can be done by a parent or guardian at home, preventing you needing to come back to the Hospital.

How do I know when to remove the catheter?

Before you are discharged, you should be told by the Doctor or nurse when you need to remove the catheter and provided with this leaflet, giving you the opportunity to talk through the procedure with a healthcare professional.

Patient name: _____

Date to remove catheter: _____



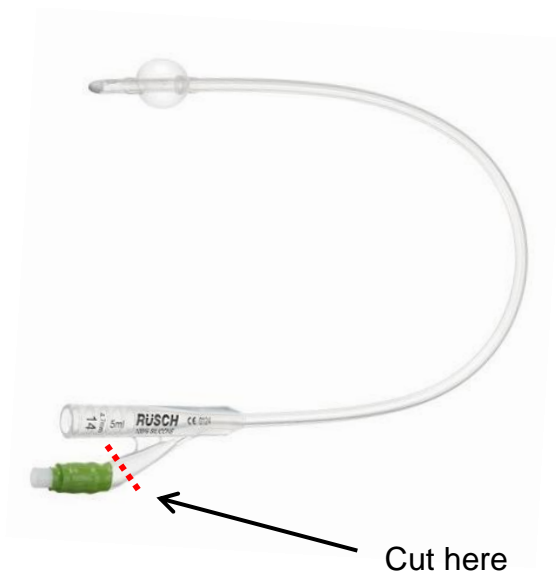
Will it hurt my child when I cut the catheter balloon port?

No, it is a painless procedure, designed to make catheter removal child friendly, allowing the procedure to be carried out within the home. The balloon port is on the outside of the catheter and therefore, your child will not feel it.

How do I remove the catheter?

As we've already mentioned, the catheter is held in by a balloon. You will need to cut the balloon "port" off the catheter with a pair of clean scissors. Once the port is cut, the water in the retention balloon will drain out. The balloon can contain anything between 3ml-10mls of water so it is a very small amount that will drip out.

It is important you do not cut the wrong port off or cut on the catheter itself



What if the catheter doesn't fall out?


We usually recommend cutting the catheter first thing in the morning and would expect the catheter to fall out within the following 24 hours. If, by bedtime, the catheter has still not fallen out, give the catheter a gentle pull when your child goes to sleep to help ease it out.

If, by the following morning (24 hours from when you cut the catheter balloon port), the catheter has still not fallen out, then you need to seek medical attention by contacting either the urology nurse specialists, discharging ward or attend A&E. The catheter will continue to drain urine even if it has not fallen out.

It is important that, whilst you wait for the catheter to fall out, your child continues to pass urine without any difficulty. The urine may continue to drain from the catheter (if it has not yet worked its way out of the bladder), or urine may pass via the urethra around the catheter (also known as bypassing).

If at any point you are concerned that your child is passing less urine than prior to cutting the balloon port, you need to seek medical attention by contacting either the urology nurse specialists, discharging ward or attend A&E.

Contact

 In case of problems or advice please call:

Secretaries

0161 701 1635

Clinical Nurse Specialists

0161 701 2476 (Hayley)

0161 701 1637 (Sue)

0161 701 7707 (Jen)

Ward 77 (urology ward)

0161 701 7700

Ward 76 (day case)

0161 701 7600

