

HAVING YOUR URINARY CATHETER REMOVED

TRANSCRIPT

A urinary catheter allows your bladder to empty when you can't do it on your own, in order to keep you healthy. To prevent infection and complications, it should be used for the shortest amount of time possible.

Depending on the reason for your catheter, your healthcare provider will decide when it can be removed. You may be able to have it removed altogether, or you may move to a more long-term catheter system called a self-catheter. There are many products available when you self-catheter. Talk to your healthcare provider about all of your options.

If your catheter will be removed, it can be done by your healthcare provider or by a home care nurse. You may feel some discomfort as it is being removed.

After your catheter has been removed, make sure to drink plenty of fluid, like water, to keep your bladder and kidneys healthy. If you have trouble urinating, sit in a few inches of warm water to help you relax. You may feel a slight burning when you urinate. If this doesn't go away, talk to your healthcare provider, it may be a sign of infection.

Call your healthcare provider if you don't urinate within 4 hours of removing the catheter, you feel pain or fullness in your bladder or belly, or you see blood or pus in your urine.

After your urinary catheter is removed, follow all of your healthcare provider's instructions to stay healthy.