

Indwelling urinary catheter

In urinary catheterization a [latex](#), [polyurethane](#), or [silicone](#) tube known as a [urinary catheter](#) is inserted into a patient's [bladder](#) via the [urethra](#). Catheterization allows the patient's [urine](#) to drain freely from the [bladder](#) for collection. It may be used to inject liquids used for treatment or diagnosis of bladder conditions. A clinician, often a nurse, usually performs the procedure, but self-catheterization is also possible. The catheter may be a permanent one ([Indwelling urinary catheter](#)), or an intermittent catheter removed after each catheterization.

A Foley catheter is retained by means of a balloon at the tip that is inflated with sterile water. The balloons typically come in two different sizes: 5 cm³ and 30 cm³. They are commonly made in silicone rubber or natural rubber.

Indications

[Indwelling urinary catheter indications](#).

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