

# Urinary catheterization

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.

see [Indwelling urinary catheter](#)

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