ZONE Tool:  
Urinary Catheter Management

*Also available in* [*other languages*](http://homehealthquality.org/Resources/Interactive-Tools/Public/ZONE-Tools-List.aspx)*.*

| **GREEN ZONE** | **ALL CLEAR (GOAL)**   * Urine is clear yellow without any odor * At least ¼ cup (60 cc) urine every hour  or * No signs of infection near or at catheter exit site   + Pain, itching, burning, and/or draining | **Doing Great!**   * Your symptoms are under control * Actions:   + Continue with good personal hygiene care   + Clean and/or change the catheter bags and tubing as instructed   + Keep bag hanging below the bladder   + Keep all doctor appointments |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **YELLOW ZONE** | **WARNING**  **If you have any of the following:**   * Signs of infection:   + Urine is cloudy and/or has an odor   + Blood in your urine   + Pain, itching, burning, and/or drainage near or at the catheter exit site   + Temperature is a 100.5° by mouth   + Color of urine is dark and looks like tea   + Pain and/or feeling of bladder fullness in the lower part of your belly * Urine is leaking; wet bed and/or clothes * A feeling of bladder fullness and/or little or no urine in the drainage bag * Catheter has fallen out | **Act Today!**   * You may have an urinary tract infection or problems with the catheter * Actions: * **Call** **your** **home health nurse:**   *(agency’s phone number)*   * + **Or call your doctor:**   *(doctor’s phone number)* |
| **RED ZONE** | **EMERGENCY**  Serious signs of infection may include:   * Some of the signs of infection in the Yellow Zone (above) with any of the following:   + - Temperature is above 100.5° by mouth     - Vomiting or chills     - Mental changes, sleepiness, or confusion | **Act NOW!**   * You need to be seen right away! * Actions: * **Call your** **home health nurse:**   *(agency’s phone number)*   * + **Or call your doctor:**   *(doctor’s phone number)*   * **Or call 911 or go to the Emergency Department.** |

*References:* [*NIH*](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/000483.htm)*, 2019; Hinkle, J.L. & Cheever, K.H., 2018;* [*CDC*](http://www.cdc.gov/hai/pdfs/uti/CA-UTI_tagged.pdf)*; n.d.*

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