Algorithm for Appropriate Insertions of Indwelling Urinary Catheters

Admission/Shift change assessment of Urine Output Management

Is there a need for an indwelling urinary catheter?

Please read the following criteria for **appropriate use** of Foley catheter and check *your reason* for ordering the Foley catheter for this patient.

| **Drainage:** | • Urinary obstruction (distal urinary tract)  
|             | • Urinary retention (not managed with intermittent catheterization) |
| **Monitoring:** | • Alteration in the blood pressure or volume status (unstable patient) requiring urine volume measurement.  
|             | • Accurate monitoring of intake and output in a patient unable to cooperate with urine collection by other means. |
| **Peri-procedure:** | • Preoperative insertion for emergency surgery  
|             | • Major trauma patients  
|             | • Placement by urology for procedure or surgery |
| **Therapy:** | • Continuous bladder irrigation  
|             | • Management of urinary incontinence with *stage 3 or greater* pressure ulcerations  
|             | • Comfort care for the terminally ill |

**YES,** the reason appears above.  
Insert catheter

**NO,** the reason does not appear above.  
(A catheter may not be indicated for this patient.)  
Consider:

1. Straight Catheterization (for Sterile specimen if needed)  
2. Commode  
3. Urinal  
4. Bed pan  
5. Incontinence Pads  
6. Toileting with assistance

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