

A NEW TECHNIQUE FOR SECURING A FOLEY CATHETER

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ABSTRACT

We describe a new technique to secure a urethral catheter using a horizontal drain tube stabilizer. This device is reliable, inexpensive, and more comfortable for patients than either adhesive tape or leg straps. *UROLOGY* 56: 149, 2000. © 2000, Elsevier Science Inc.

Securing a urethral catheter is particularly important after procedures such as radical prostatectomy in which prolonged catheter drainage is required. Unfortunately, most of the methods described to date to secure catheters are unreliable and/or uncomfortable. We describe the use of a horizontal drain tube stabilizer for this purpose, which we believe reliably solves this problem.

TECHNIQUE

The Hollister Model 9782 Horizontal Drain Tube Stabilizer was originally designed and marketed to secure gastrointestinal feeding tubes, but it can also be used to secure urethral catheters. The device costs \$6 to \$10 and is simply applied to the skin by securing the adhesive disk with tincture of benzoin. The device is placed around the urethral catheter proximal to the balloon port at the stiffest point of the catheter. The stabilizer is positioned at the level of the urethral meatus loosely enough to allow slack in the catheter (Fig. 1). Care should be taken not to occlude the catheter with the locking ring of the device. The stabilizer can be replaced if necessary, but it is usually not required. In the few instances in which the stabilizer became loose, the

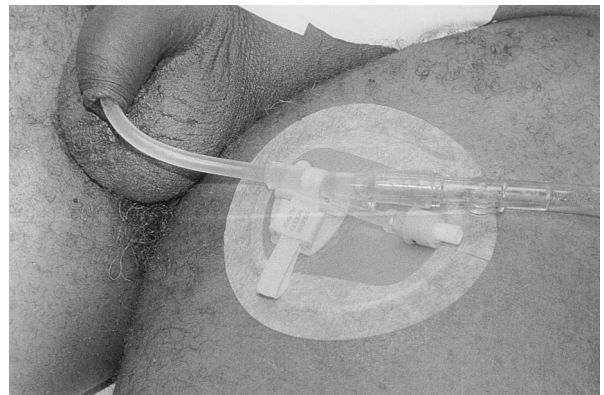


FIGURE 1. Model 9782 Hollister Horizontal Drain/Tube Attachment Device in position with slack between meatus and disc. The center of the device is positioned at the level of the meatus.

patient was able to easily reinforce the broad adhesive disk with waterproof tape.

COMMENT

The horizontal drain tube stabilizer is a reliable, comfortable, and relatively inexpensive device that is particularly useful after procedures in which prolonged catheter drainage is required. We have found it to be superior to either adhesive tape or leg straps, and we believe it represents a valuable addition to the urologic armamentarium.

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