Catheter blockages
TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE BY COMPLETING THIS MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUIZ

1. What is the main function of the bladder?
a) Filter waste products from the blood
b) Temporary storage reservoir for urine
c) Detoxify chemicals and metabolise drugs
d) Temporary storage site for faeces

2. Patients with which of these conditions are most likely to require a long-term indwelling catheter?
a) Chronic urinary retention
b) Faecal incontinence
c) Urinary tract infection
d) Irritable bowel syndrome

3. One risk factor for catheter blockages is:
a) High volume of urine output
b) Acidic urine
c) Reduced urine flow
d) An empty drainage bag

4. Which of the following is not one of the signs of a urinary catheter blockage?
a) Bradycardia
b) Bladder irritability and spasms
c) Urinary retention
d) Catheter bypassing

5. As part of an assessment of a patient with a suspected catheter blockage, the nurse should:
a) Check the patient’s vital signs
b) Take a thorough clinical and catheter history
c) Monitor the patient’s oral intake and urine output over the past 24 hours
d) All of the above

6. What type of fluid is used in manual bladder irrigation?
a) Antimicrobial solutions
b) 0.9% sodium chloride
c) Sterile water
d) Lemon or prune juice

7. Which statement is false?
a) The most common cause of encrustation is crystalline deposits caused by the urease-producing bacteria Proteus mirabilis
b) Bacteriuria occurs in all patients who have a catheter in situ for 30 days or longer
c) Catheter maintenance solutions can only be used to prevent encrustation, rather than to remove encrustation that has already formed
d) Urine is usually alkaline, but it becomes acidic when colonised with bacteria

8. Which of these strategies is not recommended to prevent catheter blockages?
a) Increase daily fluid intake
b) Regular intake of lemon juice or prune juice
c) Increase intake of sodium and sucrose
d) Scheduled catheter changes, based on the length of time the catheter remains functional

9. Why are silicone catheters considered the optimal type in preventing encrustation?
a) They must be replaced at least once per week
b) They have a small lumen size
c) They can remain in situ for longer than other types
d) They do not require a drainage bag

10. The role of the nurse in supporting patients in community settings with a long-term catheter in situ involves:
a) Providing education and support to the patient and/or their carer
b) Assisting in the daily management of the patient’s catheter
c) Addressing any complications that may arise
d) All of the above

How to complete this quiz
This multiple-choice quiz will help you to test your knowledge. It comprises ten questions that are broadly linked to the CPD article. There is one correct answer to each question.

- You can test your subject knowledge by attempting the questions before reading the article, and then go back over them to see if you would answer any differently.
- You might like to read the article before trying the questions. Subscribers making use of their RCNi Portfolio can complete this and other quizzes online and save the result automatically. Alternatively, you can cut out this page and add it to your professional portfolio. Don't forget to record the amount of time taken to complete it.

Further multiple-choice quizzes are available at rcni.com/cpd/test-your-knowledge

This multiple-choice quiz was compiled by Alex Bainbridge

The answers to this multiple-choice quiz are:

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. a 5. d 6. b 7. d 8. c 9. c 10. d

This activity has taken me __ minutes/hours to complete. Now that I have read this article and completed this assessment, I think my knowledge is:

Excellent [ ] Good [ ] Satisfactory [ ] Unsatisfactory [ ] Poor [ ]

As a result of this I intend to: ____________________________