

## Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)

This domain performs a comprehensive assessment of CAUTI prevention practices at your facility as they currently function.

### Leadership Support

1a - Does your facility perform Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) surveillance?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

1b - Does your facility report to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) or other hospital quality data organizations?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

2 - Is CAUTI data reported to facility leadership?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

3a - Does facility leadership have goals related to CAUTI improvement efforts?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

3b - Is the IPC program involved in identifying CAUTI prevention efforts?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

4 - Are facility CAUTI improvement efforts communicated to frontline staff?

- Yes – Preferred
- No
- Unsure

5 - Are unit-level leaders engaged in CAUTI Prevention?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

6a - Does the facility have an individual or team monitoring CAUTI performance?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

6b - Does the individual or team monitoring CAUTI performance report findings to the Infection Control or Quality Improvement Committee (QAPI)?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

7 - Do units perform deep dives when CAUTIs are identified on the unit?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

### **Policy & Procedure**

8a - Does the facility have a policy and standard operating procedures related to Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) prevention?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

8b - What is included in the UTI prevention policy and standard operating procedures?

- Indications for appropriate indwelling catheter use
- Established criteria for when a catheter should be discontinued
- Nurse-driven protocol for indwelling catheter removal
- Catheter insertion protocol
- Catheter maintenance protocol
- Catheter removal protocol
- Aseptic technique
- Aseptic specimen collection from an indwelling device
- Indications for urine culture
- Perineal care
- Bladder scanner protocol
- Intermittent catheterization protocol
- Suprapubic catheter care
- None of the above

### **Education & Training**

9a - Does the facility have a competency-based training program for healthcare-associated UTI prevention activities?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

9b - Healthcare-associated UTI prevention competency-based training includes:

- Indications for appropriate indwelling catheter use
- Established criteria for when a catheter should be discontinued
- Nurse-driven protocol for indwelling catheter removal
- Catheter insertion protocol
- Catheter maintenance protocol
- Catheter removal protocol
- Aseptic technique
- Specimen collection
- Perineal care
- Urinary retention (bladder scanning) protocol
- Intermittent catheterization protocol
- Waste disposal
- Maintenance of closed catheter system
- PPE use during manipulation, e.g., eye protection
- Indications for replacing an indwelling urine collection system
- Suprapubic catheter care
- None of the above

9c - Who receives healthcare-associated UTI prevention competency-based training?

- Clinical healthcare personnel
- Ancillary Services
- Non-clinical healthcare personnel Optional
- Clinical Support Optional
- Students & Trainees
- Volunteers Optional
- None

9d - What frequency is UTI prevention competency-based training provided?

- Upon hire
- Annually
- When new products and protocols are introduced
- As remediation for compliance failures
- Targeted performance improvement
- None

9e - Are healthcare personnel required to demonstrate competency of the task/skill following each training?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

9f - Does the facility maintain documentation for the completion of UTI prevention competency for healthcare personnel?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

## Audit & Feedback

10a - Does the facility audit adherence to CAUTI prevention strategies?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

10b - How are CAUTI prevention audits performed?

- Secret shopper observation
- Direct observation
- Chart/ record review
- None of the above

10c - What do the CAUTI prevention audits monitor?

- Appropriate indication of indwelling urinary catheter
- Continued indwelling urinary catheter need
- Aseptic insertion
- Catheter closed-system seal remains intact
- Urinary collection bag stored below the level of the bladder
- Catheter securement device is in use
- Urinary collection bag is less than 2/3rds full
- Appropriate urinary catheter positioning
- Unobstructed urine flow and drainage
- Catheter bag is hanging free to the structure without touching the floor
- Correct PPE when emptying collection bag or removing catheter (eye protection, gloves, etc.)
- Other:

10d - Do auditors provide immediate real-time feedback to healthcare personnel in the moment?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

11 - Does the facility utilize CAUTI data to impact performance improvement?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

12 - Which CAUTI surveillance data do frontline healthcare personnel receive?

- Facility-wide CAUTI data (SIR, SUR, rates, etc.)
- Unit-level CAUTI data
- Antibiotic usage data Optional
- Indwelling catheter days
- None

13 - Which data are provided to the Infection Control Committee (ICC) or Quality Improvement Committee (QAPI)?

- CAUTI Audit data

- CAUTI infections count or SIR
- Indwelling urinary catheter device days or SUR
- Specimen rejection data
- Antimicrobial utilization
- None

### General Practice

14 - Do ordering providers document an indication for the use of indwelling urinary catheters?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

15 - Do ordering providers use indwelling urinary catheters for appropriate indications?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely

16 - Do healthcare personnel use alternative strategies for management of urinary incontinence?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

17 - Are standardized kits for proper aseptic indwelling urinary catheter insertion available in all locations where indwelling catheters are inserted?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

18 - Does your facility require that at least two trained personnel be present for indwelling catheter insertion?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

19 - Does your facility utilize an insertion checklist for indwelling catheter insertion?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

20 - Are insertion procedure(s) documented in the patient record or chart?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely

Never

21 - Are patients assessed at least daily for continued need for the indwelling catheter?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

22 - Does the facility use alerts, reminders, or stop orders for indwelling urinary catheter removal?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

23 - Are nurse-driven catheter removal protocols in place at the facility?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

24 - Do patients and family receive education regarding indwelling urinary catheters?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

25 - When a urine specimen is collected from an indwelling catheter, is the procedure performed aseptically?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

26 - Do ordering providers send urine cultures ONLY (except for specific circumstances, e.g., bladder instrumentation and pregnancy) on patients with signs or symptoms of a urinary tract infection?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

27 - If a urine culture is ordered, is urinalysis ordered at the same time?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

28 - Are urine culture specimens transported to the lab for testing immediately following collection?

- Always
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

## Answer Key

### Leadership Support

1a - Does your facility perform Catheter-associated Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) surveillance?

**(Informational Only)**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

1b - Does your facility report to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) or other hospital quality data organizations? **(Informational Only)**

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

2 - Is CAUTI data reported to facility leadership?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

3a - Does facility leadership have goals related to CAUTI improvement efforts?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

3b - Is the IPC program involved in identifying CAUTI prevention efforts?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

4 - Are facility CAUTI improvement efforts communicated to frontline staff?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

5 - Are unit-level leaders engaged in CAUTI Prevention?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

6a - Does the facility have an individual or team monitoring CAUTI performance?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

6b - Does the individual or team monitoring CAUTI performance report findings to the Infection Control or Quality Improvement Committee (QAPI)?

**Yes - Preferred**

No

Unsure

7 - Do units perform deep dives when CAUTIs are identified on the unit?

**Always - Preferred**

**Often - Preferred**

Rarely

Never

### **Policy & Procedure**

8a - Does the facility have a policy and standard operating procedures related to Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) prevention?

**Yes - Preferred**

No

Unsure

8b - What is included in the UTI prevention policy and standard operating procedures? (**Select all preferred options**)

Indications for appropriate indwelling catheter use - **Preferred**

Established criteria for when a catheter should be discontinued - **Preferred**

Nurse-driven protocol for indwelling catheter removal - **Preferred Optional**

Catheter insertion protocol - **Preferred**

Catheter maintenance protocol - **Preferred**

Catheter removal protocol - **Preferred**

Aseptic technique - **Preferred**

Aseptic specimen collection from an indwelling device - **Preferred**

Indications for urine culture - **Preferred**

Perineal care - **Preferred**

Bladder scanner protocol - **Preferred**

Intermittent catheterization protocol - **Preferred**

Suprapubic catheter care - **Preferred**

None of the above

### **Education & Training**

9a - Does the facility have a competency-based training program for healthcare-associated UTI prevention activities?

**Yes - Preferred**

No

Unsure

9b - Healthcare-associated UTI prevention competency-based training includes: (**Select all preferred options**)

Indications for appropriate indwelling catheter use - **Preferred**

- Established criteria for when a catheter should be discontinued - **Preferred**
- Nurse-driven protocol for indwelling catheter removal - **Preferred Optional**
- Catheter insertion protocol - **Preferred**
- Catheter maintenance protocol - **Preferred**
- Catheter removal protocol - **Preferred**
- Aseptic technique - **Preferred**
- Specimen collection - **Preferred**
- Perineal care - **Preferred**
- Urinary retention (bladder scanning) protocol - **Preferred**
- Intermittent catheterization protocol - **Preferred**
- Waste disposal - **Preferred**
- Maintenance of closed catheter system - **Preferred**
- PPE use during manipulation, e.g., eye protection - **Preferred**
- Indications for replacing an indwelling urine collection system - **Preferred**
- Suprapubic catheter care - **Preferred**
- None of the above

9c - Who receives healthcare-associated UTI prevention competency-based training? (**Select all preferred options**)

- Clinical healthcare personnel - **Preferred**
- Ancillary Services - **Preferred**
- Non-clinical healthcare personnel - **Preferred Optional**
- Clinical Support - **Preferred Optional**
- Students & Trainees - **Preferred**
- Volunteers - **Preferred Optional**
- None

9d - What frequency is UTI prevention competency-based training provided? (**Select all preferred options**)

- Upon hire - **Preferred**
- Annually - **Preferred**
- When new products and protocols are introduced - **Preferred**
- As remediation for compliance failures - **Preferred**
- Targeted performance improvement - **Preferred**
- None

9e - Are healthcare personnel required to demonstrate competency of the task/skill following each training?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

9f - Does the facility maintain documentation for the completion of UTI prevention competency for healthcare personnel?

- Yes - Preferred**
- No
- Unsure

## Audit & Feedback

10a - Does the facility audit adherence to CAUTI prevention strategies?

**Yes - Preferred**

No

Unsure

10b - How are CAUTI prevention audits performed? **(Select all preferred options)**

Secret shopper observation - **Preferred Optional**

Direct observation - **Preferred**

Chart/ record review - **Preferred**

None of the above

10c - What do the CAUTI prevention audits monitor? **(Select all preferred options)**

Appropriate indication of indwelling urinary catheter - **Preferred**

Continued indwelling urinary catheter need - **Preferred**

Aseptic insertion - **Preferred**

Catheter closed-system seal remains intact - **Preferred**

Urinary collection bag stored below the level of the bladder - **Preferred**

Catheter securement device is in use - **Preferred**

Urinary collection bag is less than 2/3rds full - **Preferred**

Appropriate urinary catheter positioning - **Preferred**

Unobstructed urine flow and drainage - **Preferred**

Catheter bag is hanging free to the structure without touching the floor - **Preferred**

Correct PPE when emptying the collection bag or removing catheter (eye protection, gloves, etc.) - **Preferred**

10d - Do auditors provide immediate real-time feedback to healthcare personnel in the moment?

**Yes - Preferred**

No

Unsure

11 - Does the facility utilize CAUTI data to impact performance improvement?

**Yes - Preferred**

No

Unsure

12 - Which CAUTI surveillance data do frontline healthcare personnel receive? **(Select all preferred options)**

Facility-wide CAUTI data (SIR, SUR, rates, etc.) - **Preferred Optional**

Unit level CAUTI data - **Preferred**

Antibiotic usage data - **Preferred Optional**

Indwelling catheter days - **Preferred**

None

13 - Which data are provided to the Infection Control Committee (ICC) or Quality Improvement Committee (QAPI)? (**Select all preferred options**)

- CAUTI Audit data - **Preferred Optional**
- CAUTI infections count or SIR - **Preferred**
- Indwelling urinary catheter device days or SUR - **Preferred**
- Specimen rejection data - **Preferred**
- Antimicrobial utilization - **Preferred Optional**
- None

### General Practice

14 - Do ordering providers document an indication for the use of indwelling urinary catheters?

- Always - **Preferred**
- Often - **Preferred**
- Rarely
- Never

15 - Do ordering providers use indwelling urinary catheters for appropriate indications?

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- Yes - **Preferred**
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- Unsure

19 - Does your facility utilize an insertion checklist for indwelling catheter insertion?

- Yes - **Preferred**
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- 20 - Are insertion procedures documented in the patient record or chart?  
 **Always - Preferred**  
 **Often - Preferred**  
 Rarely  
 Never
- 21 - Are patients assessed at least daily for continued need for the indwelling catheter?  
 **Always - Preferred**  
 **Often - Preferred**  
 Rarely  
 Never
- 22 - Does the facility use alerts, reminders, or stop orders for indwelling urinary catheter removal?  
 **Yes - Preferred**  
 No  
 Unsure
- 23 - Are nurse-driven catheter removal protocols in place at the facility?  
 **Yes - Preferred**  
 No  
 Unsure
- 24 - Do patients and family receive education regarding indwelling urinary catheters?  
 **Always - Preferred**  
 **Often - Preferred**  
 Rarely  
 Never
- 25 - When a urine specimen is collected from an indwelling catheter, is the procedure performed aseptically?  
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 **Often - Preferred**  
 Rarely  
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- 26 - Do ordering providers send urine cultures ONLY (except for specific circumstances, e.g., bladder instrumentation and pregnancy) on patients with signs or symptoms of a urinary tract infection?  
 **Always - Preferred**  
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 Rarely  
 Never
- 27 - If a urine culture is ordered, is urinalysis ordered at the same time?  
 **Always - Preferred**  
 **Often - Preferred**  
 Rarely

Never

28 - Are urine culture specimens transported to the lab for testing immediately following collection?

**Always - Preferred**

**Often - Preferred**

Rarely

Never

## Guidance

### Leadership Support

**Core Element Description:** Assessment of leadership accountability, engagement, and support of catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) prevention practices within the facility.

#### Free Access: Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI): Targeted assessment for prevention (TAP) facility assessment tool.

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/media/pdfs/CAUTI-TAP-Facility-Assessment-Tool-v3-508.pdf>

### Policy & Procedure

**Core Element Description:** Assessment of policy and procedures related to catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) prevention practices within the facility.

#### Free Access: Resources

Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. (2014). Guide to preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections. APIC.

[https://www.apic.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/APIC\\_CAUTI\\_IG\\_FIN\\_REVD0815.pdf](https://www.apic.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/APIC_CAUTI_IG_FIN_REVD0815.pdf)

### Education & Training

**Core Element Description:** Assessment of education and training of healthcare personnel to appropriately perform catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) prevention practices as it relates to their job role.

#### Free Access: Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI): Targeted assessment for prevention (TAP) facility assessment tool.

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/media/pdfs/CAUTI-TAP-Facility-Assessment-Tool-v3-508.pdf>

### Audit & Feedback

**Core Element Description:** Assessment of audit and feedback practices regarding catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) prevention practices.

#### Free Access: Guidelines

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2002) Guideline for Hand Hygiene in Health-Care Settings: Recommendations of the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee and the HICPAC/SHEA/APIC/IDSA Hand Hygiene Task Force. MMWR 2002;51.

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr5116.pdf>

#### Free Access: Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). Catheter-associated urinary tract infection

(CAUTI): Targeted assessment for prevention (TAP) facility assessment tool.

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/media/pdfs/CAUTI-TAP-Facility-Assessment-Tool-v3-508.pdf>

Washer, L., Gilmartin, H.M., Olmstead, R., Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.) Hand Hygiene: Education, Monitoring, and Feedback. [https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/strive-hh102-508.pdf?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/strive/HH102-508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/strive-hh102-508.pdf?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/strive/HH102-508.pdf)

## General Practice

**Core Element Description:** Assessment of catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) prevention practices within the facility.

### Free Access: Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023). Catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI): Targeted assessment for prevention (TAP) facility assessment tool. <https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/media/pdfs/CAUTI-TAP-Facility-Assessment-Tool-v3-508.pdf>

## Additional Guidance

### Free Access: Regulatory

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (n.d.) Hospital infection control worksheet. <https://www.cms.gov/medicare/provider-enrollment-and-certification/surveycertificationgeninfo/downloads/survey-and-cert-letter-15-12-attachment-1.pdf>

### Free Access: Guidelines

Gould, C.V., Umscheid, C.A., Agarwal, R.K., Gretchen Kuntz, G., Pegues, D.A. and the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HICPAC). (2009) Guideline for prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract infections. [https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/guideline-cauti-h.pdf?CDC\\_AAref\\_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/cauti-guidelines-H.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/guideline-cauti-h.pdf?CDC_AAref_Val=https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/pdf/guidelines/cauti-guidelines-H.pdf)

### Free Access: Resources

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2024, March 14). Indwelling Urinary Catheter Culture Stewardship: Overview. <https://www.cdc.gov/hai/prevent/cauti/index.html>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021, December 21.) Quick observation tools (QUOTs) for infection prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/All-Quick-Observation-Tools-P.pdf>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2021, December 21.) TAP catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) implementation guide: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthcare-associated-infections/media/pdfs/HAI-Toolkit-TAP-Strategy-CAUTI-Implementation-Guide-508.pdf>

Department of Veterans Affairs and the University of Michigan. (2019). CAUTI Guide to Patient Safety tool. <https://www.bladdersafe.org/cauti-gps.html>