

URINARY PROBLEMS

Problems/symptoms from the urinary tract are very common in patients at end of life

Supplies to have



- › Diapers/depends- ask the nurse how to use and how to dispose
- › Equipment for catheter if in place
- › Bedside commode
- › Sanitary wipes/cleansing cloths

Common issues



- › Infections
- › Incontinence
- › Retention - inability to urinate
- › Problems with catheter
- › Blood in urine

Common Symptoms

A Infection:

- › Cloudy/foul smelling urine
- › Pain with urination fever
- › Increasing confusion, agitation
- › Blood (Sometimes)

Common Causes

- › Urinary retention
- › Clogged catheter
- › Declining health- lowered immune system

B Urinary Retention:

- › Decreasing volume of urine
- › More frequent, smaller amounts
- › New incontinence
- › Pain in pelvis, Lowe abdomen

Common Causes

- › Catheter kinked or clogged
- › Medications - some may cause issues ([Check medications list here](#))
- › For men: enlarging prostate, prostate infection
- › Urinary tract infection
- › Kidney/bladder stones
- › Severe constipation/impaction

C Urinary Incontinence:

- › Soiling bed, clothes

Common Causes

- › Urinary tract infection
- › Urinary retention
- › Diuretics (water pills)- especially if given at night
- › Excess fluid intake
- › Severe constipation/impaction
- › New neurologic event- stroke

What To Do



Make sure catheter is working - ask Hospice



Check if drinking too much fluids and if water pills are being given correctly



Check medication list to see if taking any medications known to cause issues



If there are signs of infection- call Hospice



Check if has had a bowel movement in last 2 days



Talk to your Hospice Team about any of these issues or medications you are worried about

When to Call the Hospice



Pain



Blood



No urine for more than 8 hours



Fever



Increasing confusion/agitation