

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is a good candidate for the Purewick™ Female External Catheter?

The Purewick™ Female External Catheter is a simple, non-invasive urine management solution for women. Examples of potentially eligible patients include:

- Patient requiring urine output monitoring but does not meet indications for indwelling Foley catheterisation
- Urinary incontinence and/or frequent urination
- Difficulty walking from bed or chair to toilet
- Difficulty using a bedpan
- Post-surgical or procedure immobility
- Skin injury or irritation related to urinary incontinence or incontinence pads
- Bedrest orders

2. Who is not a good candidate for the Purewick™ Female External Catheter?

The Purewick™ Female External Catheter should not be used on patients with urinary retention and is not recommended for patients who are:

- Agitated, combative, or uncooperative and might remove the Purewick™ Female External Catheter
- Having frequent episodes of bowel incontinence without a faecal management system in place
- Experiencing pre-existing skin breakdown at the site
- Experiencing menstruation and cannot use a tampon
- Patients who are mobile and able to safely ambulate to the restroom

3. How often should the Purewick™ Female External Catheter be changed?

Replace the Purewick™ Female External Catheter at least every 8-12 hours or if soiled with faeces or blood. Always assess skin for compromise and perform perineal care prior to placement of a new Purewick™ Female External Catheter.

4. Can the Purewick™ Female External Catheter be used when the patient is on her side or sitting in a chair?

Yes, the Purewick™ Female External Catheter may be used when the patient is lying or reclining on her back or side, as well as when seated in a chair. Care must be taken to ensure that the product is not positioned beneath the coccyx.

5. Can we turn a patient who is using the Purewick™ Female External Catheter?

Yes. Remove the device before turning the patient. After repositioning the patient, examine the perineum then properly position the product back into place. If lying on her side, lift the patient's leg before removing or repositioning the product.

Purewick™

FEMALE EXTERNAL CATHETER

6. Can patients wear underwear?

Yes, patients can wear underwear. In fact, netted or mesh underwear may help secure the product, especially with very thin or frail patients.

7. What if the Purewick™ Female External Catheter leaks?

Accurate positioning is key to preventing leaks. Place the Purewick™ Female External Catheter snugly against the perineum, aligning the top of white gauze against the pubic bone. The urethra should be aligned approximately 1/3 of the way down the length of the product. Tuck the end of the Purewick™ Female External Catheter between the gluteal muscles. After confirming proper positioning, check wall vacuum function.

Note: Properly placing the Purewick™ Female External Catheter snugly between the labia and gluteus holds the product in place for most patients. Mesh underwear may be useful for securing the Purewick™ Female External Catheter for some patients.

8. Does using Purewick™ Female External Catheter impact mobility protocol?

No. Remove and set aside the Purewick™ Female External Catheter to accommodate mobility. Reposition the product when the patient is ready.

9. What if a patient has loose bowel movements?

A stool management system may be used in conjunction with the Purewick™ Female External Catheter to help keep the patient clean and dry. Clean the perineum after each loose bowel movement and replace product if soiled.

10. Does the suction hold the Purewick™ Female External Catheter in place?

No. The Purewick™ Female External Catheter is held in place by the labia and gluteus. The suction is not felt by the patient.

11. Can the Purewick™ Female External Catheter be used on obese patients? Does the tubing cause a pressure point on a patient's pannus?

Obese patients are able to use the Purewick™ Female External Catheter. The product can typically be positioned out of the way of a patient's pannus, as it is positioned in the perineum. However, nursing judgement should be used to assess the patient's anatomy and determine if use of the device is appropriate.



Bard Limited, Forest House,
Tilgate Forest Business Park,
Brighton Road, Crawley,
West Sussex RH11 9BP
www.crbard.com/medical

BD, the BD Logo, Bard and Purewick are trademarks of Becton, Dickinson and Company. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.
© 2019 BD and subsidiaries. All rights reserved. 1709-01 BMD/FECs 1218/3799



Indications: The Purewick™ Female External Catheter is intended for non-invasive urine output management in female patients.

Contraindications: The Purewick™ Female External Catheter should not be used on patients with urinary retention.

Warnings: To avoid potential skin injury, never push or pull the Purewick™ Female External Catheter against the skin during placement or removal. Never insert the Purewick™ Female External Catheter into the vagina, anal canal, or other body cavities. Do not use the Purewick™ Female External Catheter with a bedpan or any material that does not allow for sufficient airflow. Discontinue use if an allergic reaction occurs. After use, this product may be a potential biohazard. Dispose of in accordance with applicable local policies and regulations.

Please consult package insert for more detailed safety information and instructions for use.