

Inflation Balloon Does Not Deflate

PROBLEM

ACTION

Blocked Deflation Channel?

- Try to remove or dislodge debris blocking the deflation channel by gently 'milking' the catheter along its length
- Try to remove or dislodge debris by inserting a few drops of sterile water into the balloon inflation channel (no more than 1-2 ml) with a sterile syringe

Faulty Syringe or Valve?

- Try a different syringe, withdraw water very slowly or leave syringe in place, the water may seep out over a period of time
- Insert the needle of a sterile 10 ml syringe into the balloon drainage channel just above the inflation valve. If the valve is faulty the water may be withdrawn gently via the syringe.

Constipation or fecal impaction present – may cause pressure on the inflation channel

Change catheter, remove impacted stool, start bowel regimen

Consult policy for further advice or seek medical/urology assistance

Do not cut the catheter, as this can leave fragments in bladder and/or urethra.

- It may recoil inside the urethra
- Do not cut the inflation valve off**
- If the balloon does not deflate it will no longer be possible to try alternative simple methods
- Do not attempt to burst the balloon by overinflating it**
- A cystoscopy will be required to remove fragments!
- Remaining fragments may result in formation of calculi

Record problem, actions and outcome. Record catheter details, lot number etc. and report to manufacturer.