

# Urinary Bypassing (urine leakage around the catheter)

## PROBLEM

## ACTION

Bypassing is caused by the catheter being blocked?

▪ See Presentation on *Urine Not Draining*

Is the catheter the correct size? – Large sizes are associated with irritation and leakage.

▪ Change catheter to a smaller size.  
▪ 12-14 Fr is appropriate for most adults for long-term drainage.

Urinary tract infection?

▪ Check for signs & symptoms of systemic infection. Treat as indicated.

Hard or impacted stool is putting pressure on bladder?

▪ Change catheter, remove stool impaction, start bowel regimen

Bladder Irritation/spasm?

▪ Concentrated urine promotes bladder irritation, Increase fluid intake to dilute urine.  
▪ Check for bladder calculi by x-ray or ultrasound, treat as required.  
▪ Consider anticholinergic or beta3 agonist medication  
▪ Urethral leakage occurring with a suprapubic catheter, may be necessary to consider surgical closure of the urethra.

Record problem, actions and outcome.