**Plano Independent School District**

**Catheterization**

**Problem List**

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| **Observation** | **Reason/Action** |
| Cloudy urine, mucus, blood, foul odor, color changes, or unusual wetting between catheterization | This may be signs of a urinary tract infection. Contact Parent. |
| Bleeding from urethra | This may be due to trauma to the urethra or an infection. Stop catheterization. Contact Parent. |
| No urine obtained during catheterization | Check position of catheter. This may be due to improper placement of the catheter or the bladder may be empty.  Check for wetness. Sometimes the catheter is too small. In this case, urine leaks around the catheter when catheterizing and urine may leak out of the bladder intermittently. |
| Inability to pass catheter | This may be due to increased sphincter tone caused by anxiety or spasm. Encourage the child to relax by breathing slowly and deeply.  **Girls**: Check catheter placement because the catheter may be in the vagina. Do not reinsert, use a clean catheter.  **Boys**: Reposition the penis and use gentle but firm pressure until the sphincter relaxes. Sometimes it helps to have the boys flex at the hips to decrease reflex resistance of bladder sphincter.  This could also be mucous blocking the catheter.   * Check physician orders for irrigation instructions. |
| Bleeding from stoma | The stoma is irritated easily. This can happen if it is rubbed too hard during cleaning or scratched with a fingernail. If the bleeding doesn’t stop quickly, apply gentle pressure and contact the parent. If a large area of the stoma is bleeding, contact the parent and the health care provider. |