

Title of WI: Care of Nephrostomy  
 Custodian: Group Managing Director  
 Version Number: 01  
 Issue date: 25.03.26  
 Review date: 25.03.29

**WORK INSTRUCTION (WI)**

<b>Title of WI</b>	Care of a Nephrostomy		
<b>What type of document is this?</b>	Work Instruction	<b>WI Reference Number</b>	HHH-W.I-098
<b>Purpose of WI</b>	To ensure that all staff who work with the relevant customers have the knowledge and competency to care for a Nephrostomy tube.		
<b>Role</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>		
Regional Clinical Lead	Responsible for assessing the customers nephrostomy care needs, obtaining care instructions from the relevant healthcare professional, training and signing off carers' competencies, writing the relevant support plan and risk assessment, and completing six-monthly (three-monthly in Wales) customer reviews to ensure safety.		
Carer	Responsible for carrying out regular nephrostomy tube hygiene in accordance with the support plan, emptying the bag promptly, and ensure skin hygiene around the site. Report any concerns or abnormalities with the tube to the manager and a healthcare professional promptly.		
Branch Care Manager	Ensure that only competent staff care for customers with nephrostomy tubes, provide support as required, and liaise with the Regional Clinical Lead over ongoing care of the customer or any concerns regarding the Nephrostomy.		
<b>Scope of WI</b>	This work instruction applies to the safe management of nephrostomy tubes for adults in the community who are cared for by Helping Hands. It covers staff competency, tube care, and the emptying of drainage bags. It does not cover the changing of the tubes or tube dressing as		

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Helping Hands: Restricted

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	these procedures should not be performed by Helping Hands staff
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**1.0 Purpose**

A nephrostomy tube is a thin, flexible catheter inserted through the skin of the back directly into the kidney to drain urine into an external bag. It is used to relieve kidney obstructions (e.g., stones, tumours) that prevent urine from reaching the bladder.

Helping Hands carers who are caring for a customer with a nephrostomy in situ are responsible for emptying urine from the nephrostomy bag and monitoring the site for signs of infection.

**2.0 Process**

2.1 Confirm the support plan instructions and then prepare all the necessary equipment e.g. a suitable container and PPE

2.2 Wash hands and don the correct personal protective equipment (PPE) aligned to current infection control guidelines

2.3 Explain the procedure to the customer and gain verbal consent (If the customer is unable to give informed consent a 'best interests' protocol and mental capacity assessment should be completed)

2.4 Ensure that the drainage bag is below the level of the kidney to allow adequate drainage, place the suitable container under the opening of the draining bag

2.5 Open the drainage bag and allow all the urine to drain out into the container, once empty, close the drainage bag, whilst avoiding touching the opening, to ensure hygiene is maintained

2.6 Assess the skin around the tube site, monitor for redness, swelling or other signs of infections. Escalate any concerns to the relevant manager and health care professional

2.7 Monitor the drained urine for colour, odour and volume

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<p>2.8 Check that the customer is comfortable and review tube for kinks or blockages</p> <p>2.9 Document actions on ACP activity schedule and enter details into the visit notes</p> <p>2.10 Monitor customer for deterioration and escalate any concerns to a health care professional immediately.</p>			
<p><b>TRAINING</b></p> <p>Is training required?</p>	<p>Yes – all carers must complete training and competency sign off with the Regional Clinical Lead or another Registered Nurse before carrying out this procedure.</p>		
<p><b>COMPLIANCE</b></p> <p>How is compliance with this document going to be monitored?</p>	<p>Annual competency assessments with practical sign off with Regional Clinical Lead or another Registered Nurse.</p>		
<p><b>PROCEDURAL INFORMATION</b></p>			
<p>Changes since previous version</p>	<p>N/A – this is a new work instruction</p>		
<p>Who was involved in developing /reviewing/amending the document? (list titles)</p>	<p>Clinical Manager Regional Clinical Leads</p>		
<p>How confidential is this document</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">Restricted</td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">Can be shared freely within Helping Hands but NOT outside</td> </tr> </table>	Restricted	Can be shared freely within Helping Hands but NOT outside
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<p>References</p>	<p>National Institute for Health and Care Excellence Nursing and Midwifery Council Code</p>		
<p>Associated Documents</p>	<p>Training &amp; Competency Form – Academy Governance Framework</p>		

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	Clinical Training flow diagram
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CONTROLLED DOCUMENT