



Division of Public and Behavioral Health Technical Bulletin



Topic: Catheters in Residential Facilities for Groups

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TO: HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND THE PUBLIC

This technical bulletin is being provided to assist in understanding of NAC 449.272 (1) (2).

Regulation with guidance:

NAC 449.272 Residents requiring use of indwelling catheter. ([NRS 449.0302](#))

1. *A person who requires the use of an indwelling catheter must not be admitted to a residential facility or be permitted to remain as a resident of a residential facility unless:*

*(a) The resident is physically and mentally capable of caring for all aspects of the condition, **with or without** the assistance of a caregiver;*

If the resident is capable of physically and mentally caring for all aspects of an indwelling catheter they may be admitted or retained in a residential facility for groups.

If the resident is incapable of independently caring for all aspects of an indwelling catheter (due to cognitive or physical impairments), they may be assisted by a caregiver as long as the caregivers comply with all components of NAC 449.272 (2).

(b) Irrigation of the catheter is performed in accordance with the physician's orders by a medical professional who has been trained to provide that care; and*

(c) The catheter is inserted and removed only in accordance with the orders of a physician by a medical professional who has been trained to insert and remove a catheter.

2. *The caregivers employed by a residential facility with a resident who requires the use of an indwelling catheter shall ensure that:*

(a) The bag and tubing of the catheter are changed by:

(1) The resident, with or without the assistance of a caregiver; or

(2) A medical professional who has been trained to provide that care;

(b) Waste from the use of the catheter is disposed of properly;

(c) Privacy is afforded to the resident while care is being provided; and

(d) The bag of the catheter is emptied by a caregiver who has received instruction in the handling of such waste and the signs and symptoms of urinary tract infections and dehydration.

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Health by R003-97, eff. 10-30-97)

**NAC 449.169 "Medical professional" defined. ([NRS 449.0302](#)) "Medical professional" means a physician or a physician assistant, nurse practitioner, registered nurse, physical therapist, occupational therapist, speech pathologist or practitioner of respiratory care who is trained and licensed to perform medical procedures and care prescribed by a physician.*

(Added to NAC by Bd. of Health by R003-97, eff. 10-30-97)

During an onsite visit to a licensed AGC for the purposes of inspection or investigation, Bureau of Health Care Quality and Compliance (BHCQC) staff will question each resident with a catheter to determine if they are able to perform all aspects regarding the care of an indwelling catheter independently. If the resident is able to perform all aspects regarding the care of the catheter independently, they are able to remain as a resident of the AGC. If the resident is not able to perform all aspects of the catheter care independently, BHCQC staff will then question the caregiver as to who assists the residents with the care. Caregivers should be able to explain what medical professional is irrigating, inserting and removing the catheter. Caregivers will explain where the resident receives the care (to ensure privacy) and provide evidence of training for all staff providing care to the resident to comply with NAC 449.272 (2)(d). If all parameters as defined in NAC 449.272 are satisfied the resident may be admitted or retained in a residential facility for groups without the need for a medical waiver.


If all of the parameters defined in NAC 449.272 are not met, the facility has the option of completing a request to admit or retain a resident with certain medical needs or conditions. This form is located:

<http://www.health.nv.gov/HCQC/MedicalConditionsExemptionRequestForm.pdf>.

The facility types this regulation specifies are as follows:

- Residential facilities for groups

Signed:  MD Date: 7/2/2014
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Nevada State Health Division

Signed:  Date: 7/2/2014
Richard Whitley, MS, Administrator
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