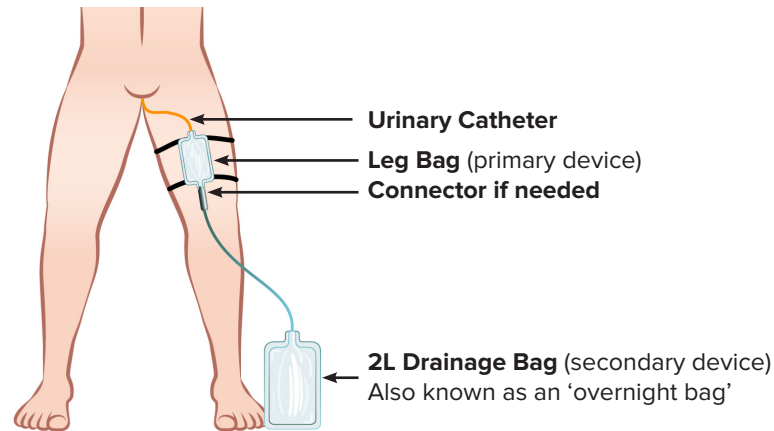


## Client Health Education Resource

# Cleaning the Secondary Urine Drainage Bag



You have a sterile urinary catheter going into your bladder, either through the urethra or suprapubic area, to drain urine from your bladder.

The catheter is connected to a leg bag called the primary collection bag. The connection between the catheter and the leg bag is not to be opened in order to prevent a urinary tract infection.

Your leg bag can be connected to a secondary collection bag. This 2L bag can collect greater amounts of urine than what the leg bag can hold; for example, overnight collection of urine.

When the 2L bag is disconnected from the leg bag; for example, in the morning, it needs to be cleansed and allowed to dry before re-attaching it to the leg bag.

### Gather your supplies:

- Alcohol swab
- Liquid dish soap
- White vinegar
- (2) 2 cups (500ml) containers
- (1) measurement cup
- 50 or 60mL catheter tip syringe (from a medical supply store) or a turkey baster or a squeeze bottle with a small nozzle
- If needed, new 2L drainage bag
- A connector, if needed (a piece of tubing which allows the 2L bag tubing to be connected to the leg bag spout). Note: if using a connector, it should stay attached to the 2L drainage bag tubing.

### Set up the solutions:

- In one of the containers, mix a few drops of liquid dish soap into 250 mL (1 cup) of tap water.
- In the other container, mix 75 mL of vinegar with 225 mL of tap water **or** 1/3 cup of vinegar with 1 cup of tap water.

### **Disconnect the 2L bag:**

- Wash hands.
- Close the leg bag's spout so that the leg bag now collects the urine.
- Cleanse the connecting point of the leg bag and 2L bag with the alcohol swab for 30+ seconds. Let dry.
- Disconnect the 2L bag from leg bag.
- Empty the 2L bag and close its drainage spout.
- If the 2L bag has a colour change or is damaged, then discard the bag.
- Wash hands again.

### **Clean the inside of the 2L bag:**

- Draw up soap solution into syringe, bottle or baster and attach it to the drainage tubing.
- Add the solution to the bag.
- Repeat the above steps to add all of the solution.
- Gently shake solution around the bag for 30 seconds
- Open the spout and drain out the solution.
- Rinse with water.

### **Disinfect the inside of 2L bag:**

- Draw up the vinegar into the syringe/bottle/baster and attach it to the drainage tubing
- Add the solution to the bag.
- Repeat above steps to add all the solution.
- Gently shake the solution around the bag for 30 seconds
- Allow the solution to sit for 10-15 minutes then drain out the solution.

### **Prepare for drying:**

- Wipe the outside of the 2L bag with soap then vinegar solution. Dry.
- Hang and open the spout to allow the vinegar solution to drain out. Leave the spout open.
- Ensure the tubing end and spout do not come in contact with any surface.

### **Clean up:**

- Rinse containers and put away the equipment/supplies.
- Wash hands.

### **Reattach the 2L bag, for example; before going to bed:**

- Wash hands.
- Empty the leg bag and close its drainage spout.
- Wash hands again.
- Cleanse the connecting point of the leg bag and the 2L bag tubing with the alcohol swabs for 30+ seconds. Let dry.
- Close the spout on the 2L bag. Open the spout on the leg bag.
- Wash hands again.

**Created by:** Provincial Nursing Continence Committee

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