

PROCEDURE FOR: Bladder Scanner

- POLICY:
1. The bladder scanner is a noninvasive method for determining urinary bladder volume. The bladder scanner projects ultrasound energy through the lower abdomen to obtain an image of the bladder. It computes the volume of urine and displays it on the screen in milliliters.
 2. Obtain LIP order for Bladder Scanner.
 3. The Bladder Scanner will be used to determine urinary bladder volume (such as post-void residual volume) in order to minimize the risk of nosocomial infections associated with catheterizations.
 4. The bladder scanner will be used on patients in the supine position, whenever possible, to enhance measuring accuracy.
 5. The bladder scanner will not be used on pregnant patients, patients with a urinary drainage catheter in place, or patients with compromised skin integrity where the scanner will be applied. Certain conditions may also affect measuring accuracy of the scanner including obesity, scar tissue, abdominal incisions and surgical staples, and should be evaluated prior to using the scanner.
 6. The bladder scanner will be used with extreme care on patients who have had suprapubic or pelvic surgery; the scanner will be used with caution on patients who have bladder diverticula or ovarian cysts.
 7. Should not be used by individuals who are not competently trained.
 8. Bladder Scanner cannot be used with catheter in place.

EQUIPMENT: Bladder Scanner
 Ultrasound transmission gel
 Alcohol wipes

PROCEDURE:

- | <u>ACTION</u> | <u>POINTS OF EMPHASIS</u> |
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| 1. Wash hands thoroughly. | |
| 2. Explain procedure to patient and provide privacy. | |
| 3. Clean rounded end of the scan | 3. Do not autoclave or immerse the |

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head by wiping gently with two or more alcohol wipes.

scanhead.

4. Make sure scanhead is plugged in and the charger is not plugged in.

4. If the machine is turned on and the battery charger is plugged in, the display will read "Disconnect battery charger before performing exam."

5. Turn the bladder scanner on, and press "SCAN".

6. Press "male" or "female" to indicate the sex of the patient being scanned.

6. Use the "male" selection if the patient is a female known to have undergone a hysterectomy.

7. Palpate the patient's symphysis pubis. Apply a generous amount of the ultrasound transmission gel to the patient's suprapubic area.

8. Locate the patient icon on the scanhead and make sure the head of the icon is pointed toward the head of the patient.

9. Press and release the scan button. When scan is accurate, press DONE for results screen.

10. Verify centered image by using aiming icon on the right side of the LCD screen. The light surface indicates the position of the bladder relative to the scanhead. The scan is accurate when the crosshairs in the aiming icon are centered on the light surface.

DOCUMENTATION: Record results in progress notes and/or on unit flow sheet.

APPROVAL: Nursing Standards Committee

EFFECTIVE DATE: 5/01

REVISION DATES: 6/03, 8/03, 8/05