Letter to the Editor

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Reply to letter from Dr Vaidyanathan

We have underscored the importance of performing the insertion of a suprapubic catheter under cystoscopic control, an otherwise simple procedure in patients with spinal cord injury, to avoid potentially serious complications.

We agree with Vaidyanathan *et al* that the complications, as described by them during the changing of the suprapubic catheter do occur occasionally. This reinforces our view that physicians and health-care professionals must be extremely careful when dealing

with this group of patients. A high index of suspicion is to be maintained, especially by the junior medical and nursing staff to identify potential problems early and institute proper management. Whether it is the initial insertion or subsequent change of a suprapubic catheter, the need for extreme vigilance cannot be overemphasized if the described complications are to be avoided.

R. Hamid
*Spinal Injuries Unit, Royal National Orthopaedic
Hospital, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4LP, UK*