

A New Appliance

INTERMITTENT SELF-CATHETERISATION—A NEW FEMALE CATHETER

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Summary. This new catheter is presented for its simplicity and not for any other specific function. It has had good patient acceptance and is extremely easy to make (patent pending).

Key words: Catheterisation; Female paraplegics.

Introduction

MANY types of catheters have been described in the past for either indwelling use or intermittent use in the care of the paralysed bladder (Boles *et al.*, 1978).

In our unit we have used various forms of plastic and silastic catheters, as well as glass and metal ones. The major problem with these is one of cleaning and of the ease of transporting the necessary equipment (Boles, 1982).

One of our urologists described a catheter for use in female paraplegics and various forms of this have now been made (Porteous, 1980). The latest is described below in Figs 1 and 2.

Materials and Methods

As mentioned above, most of our catheters have been either silastic, glass or stainless steel. We have therefore combined these in the making of our pen catheter which enables the patient to carry it in the pocket in a semi-sterile situation; it only needs to be clipped on to the bottom of the pen for insertion.

The catheter itself is made of stainless steel as it is felt that this can then be boiled and will last for a considerable length of time. The actual pen section is freely available in any newsagency and the small attachment can be removed should the pen break and added to a new one. This catheter is easily transported, cleaned, and so far has been highly commended by the patients.

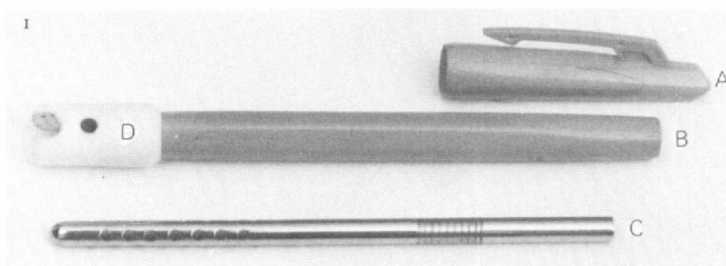


FIG. 1

This shows the four components of the catheter. A—pen top; B—the pen; C—stainless steel catheter; D—teflon attachment; C is stored inside B.

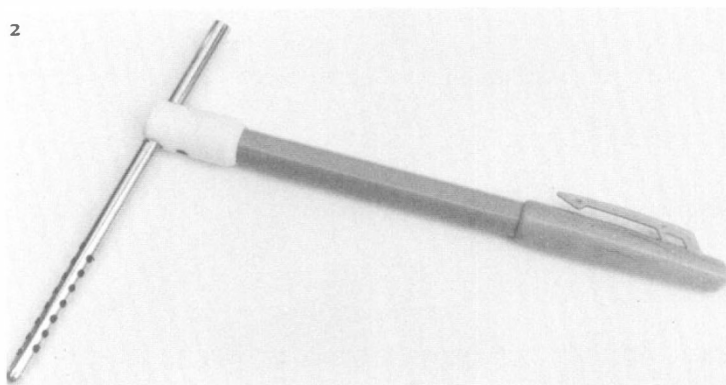


FIG. 2

Catheter ready for insertion.

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