

# Coude Catheter Insertion in Male Patients: A Step-by-Step Guide\*

<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>What is a coude catheter?</b> A specialized urinary catheter with a <b>curved tip</b> designed to navigate through obstruction in the urethra. The shape of the coude tip follows the natural curve of the urethra as it goes through the body. A coude tip can be used for indwelling or intermittent straight catheterization.</p> <p><b>When should I use a coude catheter?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Male patients above 55 years of age (who still have a prostate) as they are likely to have BPH</li> <li>● Male patients of any age with a known diagnosis of benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH)</li> <li>● Male patients who have required a coude catheter in the past</li> </ul>	
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Curved coude tip facing upward</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A coude catheter has a raised bump on one end, and a curved tip on the other</li> <li>● The raised bump and the curved tip face the same direction on the catheter. The purpose of the bump is show you which way the coude tip is facing while you are advancing it in the urethra</li> </ul>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Raised bump facing upward</p>
<p>Curved coude tip</p> <p>Raised bump</p>	<p>When you are inserting the catheter, this bump, also called a “raised indicator”, should always face upward with the penis at a 90-degree angle from the body</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p>Even after urine starts to flow, continue insertion until the Y hub reaches the tip of the penis to avoid the risk of inflating the balloon while in the urethra</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>If applicable to the catheter type, inflate the balloon with the recommended amount of sterile water on the manufacturer’s instructions and secure the catheter accordingly</p>
<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Stop and call a Urologist or other healthcare provider if there is bleeding, severe pain or resistance in early placement while in penile or bulbous urethra curve, pain during balloon inflation, meeting resistance when inflating the balloon, or after 2 failed attempts.</p>	<p>Scan this QR code to watch the full video tutorial on coude catheter insertion in males.</p>	

\*This handout is intended to supplement, not replace, critical routine catheter insertion steps that are focused on infection prevention. This handout and corresponding video were created by the Surgical Urinary Catheter Care Enhancement Safety Study (SUCCESS), in collaboration with the Michigan Surgical Quality Collaborative (MSQC). They were funded by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. For questions, please contact Dr. Jennifer Meddings at the University of Michigan at meddings@med.umich.edu. For more urinary catheter safety tools, please visit our website at [www.msqc.org/success](http://www.msqc.org/success).