Catheter Against Urinary Tract Infection (CAUTI) Trial

A trial of an antimicrobial indwelling urinary catheter for long-term use

Background

For those affected by dementia or neurological disorders, indwelling urinary catheterisation may be essential to their care and dignity. Urinary catheters are inserted into the bladder to drain urine. However, urinary catheters are the most common cause of urinary tract infection. It is estimated that catheter-associated urinary tract infections cost the NHS £1-2.5 billion each year. The personal, clinical, and financial burden of infections caused by catheters is significant, but it is an under-researched area.

At the University of Nottingham, we have developed an indwelling urinary catheter for use over 28 days (long-term catheterisation). The antimicrobials rifampicin, sparfloxacin, and triclosan are embedded throughout the catheter. We have carried out extensive laboratory studies to show the antimicrobial catheter prevents infection for 10-12 weeks and also blockages of the catheter. We have also completed a small trial to determine the catheter is well-liked and safe.

What is the planned research?

We are currently applying to the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Efficacy and Mechanism Evaluation funding scheme to carry out a randomised trial of the antimicrobial catheter compared to a standard silicone catheter. We hope to understand if the antimicrobial urinary catheter reduces symptomatic catheter-associated urinary tract infections.

Who is organising the research?

The research is being organised by the University of Nottingham in collaboration with Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust. Additional NHS Trusts will be involved as trial centres when the clinical trial begins.

How can people with dementia and/or their carer's get involved?

We would be grateful for the input of people who have experienced long-term catheterisation and affected by dementia and/or their carers to contribute to the trial design. This would involve responding to emails and/or speaking on the phone.

If you would be willing to help shape the study please get in contact using the details below.

We expect that the clinical trial will begin in 12-18 months, and at that time we will have additional information for those who might be interested in participating in the trial. If you would like to be contacted specifically with that information, please get in contact and we will keep your details securely and confidentially.

Contact Information

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