

# Intervention cuts catheter-related pediatric UTIs

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Image courtesy of Blausen Medical

(HealthDay)—Enactment of a quality improvement prevention bundle at a tertiary care children's hospital significantly reduced the rate of catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs), according to research published online Aug. 11 in *Pediatrics*.

Katherine Finn Davis, R.N., Ph.D., of the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, and colleagues conducted a [retrospective cohort study](#) to assess the epidemiology of incident pediatric CAUTIs at a children's hospital during a three-year period. The researchers also examined the impact of a CAUTI quality improvement bundle, which included practice standards for insertion and maintenance of urinary catheters, staff training, daily review of need for a catheter, and rapid review of all CAUTIs.

The researchers observed a 50 percent reduction in the mean monthly CAUTI rate from 5.41 to 2.49 per 1,000 catheter-days (95 percent confidence interval, -1.28 to -0.12; P = 0.02) following implementation of the CAUTI prevention bundle. Most pediatric patients with CAUTIs were female (75 percent), were admitted to the pediatric or [cardiac intensive care](#) unit (70 percent), and had at least one complex [chronic medical condition](#) (98 percent). Almost 90 percent of patients who developed a CAUTI had a recognized indication for urinary catheterization.

"CAUTI is a common pediatric health care-associated infection," the authors write. "Implementation of a prevention bundle can significantly reduce CAUTI rates in children."

**More information:** [Abstract](#)  
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