

Please note this is an **EXAMPLE COMPETENCY FOR PRACTICE** and is to serve as an educational and organizational resource only. **Please always follow the policies and procedures for your institution and practice. Please always follow treating physician's orders.**

**Nursing Competency: Hematuria Monitoring and Management after HDR Brachytherapy**

Through return demonstration in the clinical setting and evidence of daily work, the brachytherapy nurse in orientation will use this tool to obtain evaluation of the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to independently function as a registered nurse in the oncology (brachytherapy) service. The evaluator will validate competencies based on direct observation with attention to the orientee's consistency in demonstrating the competency.

**Employee Name:**

**Date:**

Assessment	Comment
<p><b>Assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates the ability to perform a physiological assessment focused on the urinary system.</li> <li>• Monitors urinary output closely, noting color, clarity, amount, and presence of clots.</li> <li>• Recognizes normal post-procedure expectations (mild pink urine/spotting) versus abnormal findings (bright red bleeding, clots, decreased output).</li> </ul> <p><b>Nursing Diagnosis</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies risk for impaired urinary elimination, risk for bleeding, or risk for infection related to urinary tract procedures or brachytherapy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates the ability to identify patient goals based on assessment data (e.g., maintaining adequate urinary output, preventing urinary obstruction, early recognition of complications).</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develops an individualized plan of care for monitoring hematuria, based on patient diagnosis, procedure performed, and physician orders.</li> <li>• Plans for appropriate documentation and communication of findings with the care team.</li> </ul>	

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**Interventions**

Recognizes the importance of close monitoring for hematuria after procedures such as prostate or gynecologic HDR brachytherapy:

- Hourly assessment and documentation of urinary catheter output when urinary catheter present (color, clarity, presence of clots).
- Assesses for associated symptoms: suprapubic pain, flank pain, decreased urine output, difficulty voiding.
- Encourages adequate oral hydration unless contraindicated.
- Ensure catheter tubing is free of kinks and bags are below bladder level to allow drainage.

**Understands when to notify physician:**

- Bright red urine that does not clear with irrigation.
- Passage of large clots or catheter obstruction.
- Sudden decrease or absence of urine output.
- Associated with fever, severe pain, or signs of infection.

**Understands interventions as ordered by physician:**

- Manual bladder irrigation for clots or obstruction.
- Continuous bladder irrigation (CBI) if ordered.
- Monitoring for return of clear/yellow urine

**Provides patient education:**

- Explain that light pink urine or small clots may be expected, especially after implant removal or catheterization.
- Educate that bright red bleeding, large clots, or inability to urinate is not normal and requires immediate medical attention.
- Review signs of infection (burning, urgency, fever, foul odor).
- Provide written instructions on when and how to contact the care team.

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<p><b>Documentation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Documents all assessments of urine output in EMR (color, clarity, amount, clots).</li><li>• Documents interventions performed (hydration encouraged, catheter irrigation, physician notified).</li><li>• Records patient education provided, including teach-back verification of understanding.</li></ul>	
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Employee Name (Printed): . Date: .

Employee Signature: . Date: .

Supervisor or Trainer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: .