



Resource impact summary report

Resource impact

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Recommendations

There is not enough evidence to determine whether price variation is justified between different intermittent urethral catheters for chronic incomplete bladder emptying in adults.

Service providers should provide access to a range of intermittent urethral catheters, so that catheters that meet people's needs and preferences and are clinically appropriate are available for them.

A healthcare professional and the person with chronic incomplete bladder emptying should decide together which intermittent urethral catheters to use, accounting for:

- ease and comfort of use
- risk of infection.

If more than 1 catheter meets the person's needs and preferences and is clinically appropriate, choose the least expensive.

Financial resource impact

In 2023 to 2024, around 95 million intermittent catheters were prescribed in the NHS, and the price per catheter ranged from £0.40 to £3.28 (as of November 2024).

The key drivers of financial resource impact are:

- switching to a catheter that minimises the risk of urinary tract infection will save resources and improve patient satisfaction and health-related quality of life
- if more than 1 catheter meets the person's needs and preferences and is clinically appropriate, choosing the least expensive will ensure value for money.

Key information

Table 1 Key information

Commissioner(s)	ICBs
Provider(s)	Primary care, Community health care and Secondary care – acute

About this resource impact summary report

This resource impact summary report accompanies the [NICE late-stage assessment guidance on intermittent urethral catheters for chronic incomplete bladder emptying in adults](#) and should be read with it. See [terms and conditions on the NICE website](#).

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