



# **Application as a Standard Nursing Procedure**

## **Reusable Unisex External Urinary Catheter**

# Reusable Unisex External Urine Collection Device

## Introduction

UniSUC is a *reusable*, non-invasive external urine management system used for various adult incontinence populations, including the bed-bound or those with limited mobility. This medical device is used for the following indications:

- Urinary frequency or incontinence.
- Post-foley catheterization.
- Strict Intake & Output (I&O).
- Female at birth to help prevent unnecessary indwelling catheterization.

External catheter devices reduce the risk for catheter-associated urinary tract infection (CAUTI) and pressure ulcers, help prevent incontinence-associated dermatitis, promote comfort, and allow uninterrupted sleep.<sup>2</sup>

The UniSUC medical device adheres to current standard nursing practices for *bedpan & urinal* use, while integrating innovative features of **reusability and disposability** via the use of an *external urine collection device*.

UniSUC is the newest replacement option for urinary external catheters (i.e., Purewicks or Primafits) for females or condom catheters for males which are designed to significantly improve patient care while reducing nurse or caregiver workload. The key innovative benefits and features of UniSUC are as follows:

- Two-part device with reusable frame and disposable liner.
- Used for both females and males (unisex). Minimizes inventory, universal for all genders.
- One-size-fits-all. Bends and holds its shape to contour a small-to-large body frame.
- Comfortable feel. The disposable liner is made with the same materials as baby diapers or sanitary pads.
- Siphons urine with 95% effectiveness. Continuous vacuum aeration consistently pulls moisture away keeping patients dry in approximately 30 minutes (based on an internal study).
- Effectively siphons urine in multiple positions. Ideal when turning patients q2h.
- Physical therapy can perform a range of motion in a bed or in a chair while using **UniSUC** with the use of an underpant.
- Full usage of disposable liner on regular 8-12hr shifts.
- Lowest cost per use.
- Reduces risk for CAUTIs and pressure ulcers.
- Reduces risks for vaginal infection due to feces contamination by means of barrier protection as placed above the anus.
- Reduces nurse workload while improving patient care.

## Contraindications

The UniSUC External Catheter should *not be used on patients with urinary retention*. Relative contraindications include:

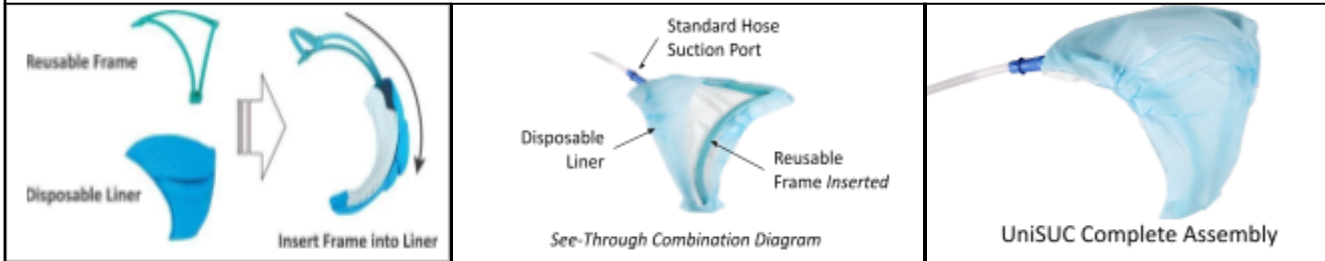
- Agitation or confusion.
- Heavy Fecal incontinence.
- Heavy vaginal bleeding.

## Warnings:

- This product is for external use only.
- Do not insert UniSUC Frame Device or its liners into the vagina, anal canal, or other body cavities.
- Avoid placement over hemorrhoidal tissue.
- Discontinue use if an allergic reaction or bleeding occurs.
- After use, this product may be a potential biohazard.
- Dispose in accordance with applicable local policies and regulations.

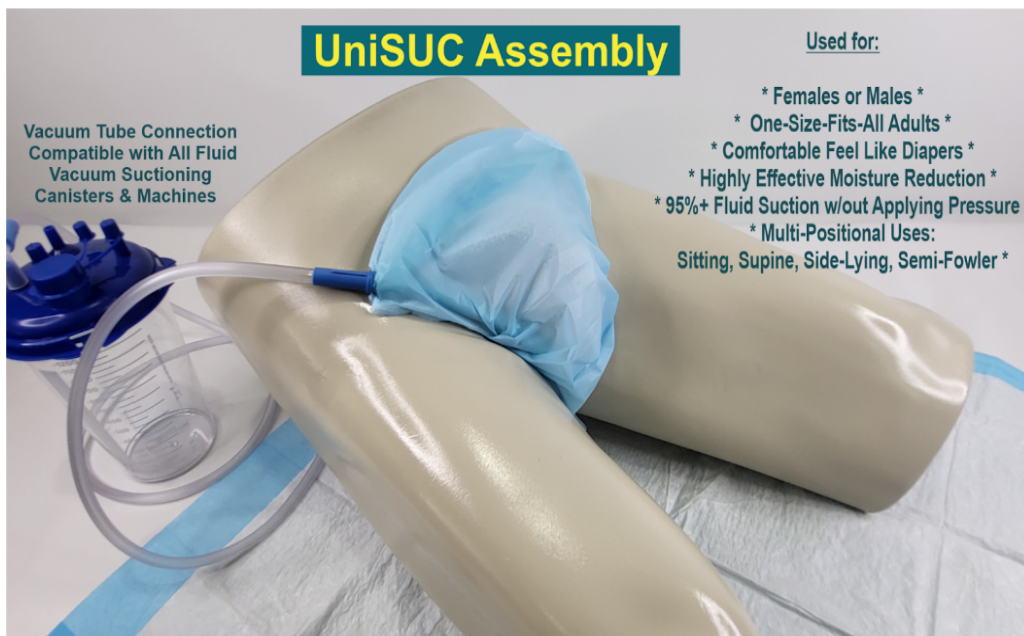
## REUSABLE EXTERNAL URINE COLLECTION DEVICE ASSEMBLY

UniSUC is a reusable external urine collection device for incontinent patients that consists of two-part assembly: (1) a **reusable frame** and (2) a **disposable liner**. The reusable frame is an insert into a disposable liner. A standard suction hose is attached to the end port to complete the UniSUC assembly.



1. **Reusable Frame:** If the frame is saturated in urine when used, disassemble the frame from the liner. Rinse the frame, then apply disinfectant as per hospital recommendation. *Similar standard nursing procedure for urinal or bedpan maintenance.*
2. **Disposable Liner:** If the liner is saturated in urine when used, separate the liner from the frame and dispose. Replace the used liner with a new disposable liner. Assemble as shown above. *Similar standard nursing procedure for external urine collection device use.*

UniSUC application is either for females or males. UniSUC assembly is bent to fit comfortably over the perineal area and secured by the base when placed between the buttocks and above the anus (*creates a barrier protection to reduce vaginal infection due to possible feces contamination*). The urine collection vacuum canister attaches to the port end of the UniSUC frame to facilitate a continuous siphoning effect. The disposable liner is recommended for replacement every 8-12 hours or when stained with feces. The frame is designed to be reused after rinsing and disinfection per hospital protocol.



# Reusable Unisex External Urine Collection Device

## Bedside Care Procedure for UniSUC

### ➤ Equipment

- Bath blanket or sheet <sup>1,2</sup>
- UniSUC reusable external urine collection device (start kit or new disposable liners)
- Fluid-impermeable pad<sup>2</sup>
- Gloves<sup>1,2</sup>
- Perineal cleaning supplies (disposable cleaning cloths, prepackaged bath product, washcloths; a towel; and mild soap or pH-balanced skin cleanser)<sup>1,2</sup>
- Suction control device<sup>2</sup>
- Suction source <sup>2</sup>
- Suction tubing <sup>2</sup>
- Urine collection canister <sup>2</sup>
- Optional: disposable mesh underwear, gown, graduated cylinder, mask with a face shield or a mask and goggles <sup>2</sup>

### ➤ Preparation of Equipment

Inspect all equipment and supplies. If a product is expired, is defective, or has compromised integrity, remove it from patient use, label it as expired or defective, and report the expiration or defect as directed by your facility.<sup>1,2</sup>

Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use and care of all equipment. Assemble the urine collection canister and suction tubing. Then test the suction source and suction control device to make sure that they are functioning properly. <sup>2</sup>

### ➤ Implementation

#### ***Application***

- If required by your facility, verify the practitioner's order.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Review the patient's medical record for urine retention and other factors that could preclude use of the device, such as agitation or confusion, recent surgery of the external urogenital tract, or allergy to latex or adhesives.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Gather and prepare the necessary equipment and supplies.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Perform hand hygiene.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Confirm the patient's identity using at least two patient identifiers.<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Apply patient label onto UniSUC frame bar for device identification to avoid sharing with another patient.
- Provide privacy.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Explain the procedure to the patient and family (if appropriate) according to their individual communication and learning needs to increase understanding, allay their fears, and enhance cooperation.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Raise the bed to waist level before providing care to prevent caregiver back strain.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Perform hand hygiene.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Put on gloves and, as needed, other personal protective equipment to comply with standard precautions.<sup>1,2</sup>

- Assist the patient to a supine or lithotomy position with the knees bent and legs abducted. Alternatively, assist the patient onto one side in a knee-chest position, if the patient can't tolerate the supine or lithotomy position.<sup>2</sup>
- Place a fluid-impermeable pad under the patient's pelvis to protect the bed from soiling and moisture.<sup>2</sup>
- Drape the patient with a bath blanket or sheet, exposing only the perineal area, to maintain warmth and privacy.<sup>2</sup>
- Assess the patient's perineal area for skin irritation or breakdown, signs of fecal incontinence, and heavy vaginal bleeding. Notify the practitioner if any are present.<sup>2</sup>
- Clean and dry the perineal area as directed by your facility.<sup>2</sup>
- Remove UniSUC from its packaging. Assemble UniSUC as follows:
  - Lay frame flat with base cup facing upward and lay the liner with wicking fabric material facing upward and plastic side down.
  - To combine, open the top edge of the liner and insert the base of the frame between the wicking fabric and plastic. Insert inward until the frame tip is at the end of the liner.
  - From the port of the frame, slightly bend the frame and insert the port through the opening of the liner from the edge line. Insert the other end of the frame into the liner.
  - Make sure the frame is completely inside the liner. Straighten the frame side tubes as necessary.
- *Reusing dirtied UniSUC Frame.* If UniSUC is saturated with urine, reuse the frame and discard the disposable liner.
  - Rinse the frame with water, and clean it thoroughly using a facility-approved disinfectant solution to prevent spread of infection.<sup>1</sup>
  - Clean and disinfect other reusable equipment, if used, according to the manufacturer's instructions to prevent the spread of infection.<sup>1</sup>
  - Dry and reapply into the UniSUC assembly
- Attach the proximal end of the frame with a port to the vacuum hose tube. Press firmly until a snap sound is heard and secured.
- Position the UniSUC assembly with the plastic side facing up or outward while the soft wick material is facing the patient.
- Hold the base tip of the frame assembly and place comfortably firm above the anus between buttocks. Confirm the feeling with the patient if comfortable. *This creates a barrier protection to reduce vaginal infection due to possible feces contamination*
- Bend the frame assembly to contour to both sides of the inguinal folds of the skin from the base tip up to the top frame. Assess the contour shape and assure no gap is visible. Press tube frame flat along the inguinal skin.
- Reassess the patient's comfort level and adjust as necessary.
- ★ **Note 1:** Applying pressure onto the vagina or scrotum should be avoided and unnecessary. UniSUC naturally seals along the crevices of the skin folds from the frame sides.
- ★ **Note 2:** Underpant may be applied over UniSUC assembly. Range of motion may be performed while underpant is applied.
- After positioning and securing the device properly, position the patient's legs together.<sup>2</sup>
- Turn on continuous suction at least 40 mm Hg, or as recommended by the manufacturer's instruction, using the minimum amount of suction needed to collect the patient's urine.<sup>2</sup>

- Assess the patient's skin regularly for irritation or injury, the position of the device for proper placement, ensuring the UniSUC frame assembly is contoured and seated along the skin folds and placement is above the anus area.
- Patients may be turned every q2h or as needed while UniSUC assembly is in place.
- Empty the urine collection canister, as needed. Measure the urine output, as needed or as directed by your facility. Replace the suction tubing and urine collection canister as directed by your facility.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Replace UniSUC disposable liner every 8 to 12 hours or whenever it becomes soiled with feces, blood, or other non-urine body fluid. *Note:* Frame is rinsed and disinfected for reuse. Insert frame into a new disposable liner for continued care.
- Cover the patient as appropriate.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Return the bed to the lowest position to prevent falls and maintain patients safety.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Discard used supplies in appropriate receptacles.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Remove and discard your gloves and, if worn, other personal protective equipment.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Perform hand hygiene.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Document the procedure.<sup>1,2</sup>

### ***Removing the device***

- Perform hand hygiene.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Confirm the patient's identity using at least two patient identifiers.
- Provide privacy.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Explain the procedure to the patient and family (if appropriate) according to their individual communication and learning needs to increase understanding, allay their fears, and enhance cooperation.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Raise the bed to waist level before providing care to prevent caregiver back strain.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Perform hand hygiene.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Put on gloves and, as needed, other personal protective equipment to comply with standard precautions.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Assist the patient to a supine or lithotomy position with the knees bent and legs abducted. Alternatively, assist the patient onto one side in a knee-chest position, if the patient can't tolerate the supine or lithotomy position.<sup>2</sup>
- Gently pull UniSUC assembly away from patient top to bottom.
- If the UniSUC frame is to be reused, rinse and disinfect before reapplying onto the patient. *Follow the instructions for Application above.*
- Clean and dry the perineal area as directed by your facility.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Cover the patient, as appropriate.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Disconnect the device from the suction tubing.<sup>2</sup>
- Discard used supplies in appropriate receptacles.<sup>2</sup>
- Return the bed to the lowest position to prevent falls and maintain patients safety.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Remove and discard your gloves and, if worn, other personal protective equipment.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Perform hand hygiene. Document the procedure.<sup>1,2</sup>

## ➤ Special Considerations

- Maintain suction at all times during use and until the device is fully removed to prevent urine backflow.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Range of motion while in bed or chair may be performed while using UniSUC assembly. Secure with underpant placement over the device

## Documentation

Documentation associated with use of UniSUC reusable external urine collection device as follows:

- Date and time of reusable external urine collection device application, placement, and removal.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Assessment findings before, during, and after device use.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Urine output, as directed by your facility.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Patient's tolerance of the procedure.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Any interventions performed
  - Patient's response to those interventions <sup>1,2</sup>
- Practitioner notification, if needed <sup>1,2</sup>
  - Date and time of notification
  - Practitioner's name
  - Information conveyed
  - Information received
- Teaching provided to the patient and family (if applicable)<sup>1,2</sup>
  - Their understanding of that teaching
  - Any need for follow-up teaching

### Standard Nursing Practice References:

1. Lippincott Procedures. (2023). *Bedpan and Urinal Use*. <https://procedures.lww.com/Inp/view.do?pld=5308903>
2. Lippincott Procedures. (2023). *External urine collection device use, assigned female at birth*. <https://procedures.lww.com/Inp/view.do?pld=5308786&hits=external,catheters,urinary,catheter&a=true&ad=false&q=external%20urinary%20catheter>