Urinary tract infections are the most common hospital-acquired infections in the United States. The majority of these infections are attributed to indwelling Foley catheters. Medline’s ERASE CAUTI program aims to help reduce catheter-associated urinary tract infections with a patented one layer tray, clinical education program and comprehensive product line made without natural rubber latex.

### The Negative Effects of Latex

Due to their continuous exposure, clinicians are at a greater risk of latex sensitization.1 With severity of reactions ranging from mild rash to full-blown anaphylactic shock, all precautions should be taken to minimize clinician exposure.

### The Silicone Advantage

Recently, the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) reported that silicone catheters may have advantages over latex catheters, with in vitro and in vivo observations suggesting that latex is associated with increased inflammation, urethritis, stricture formation, and discomfort from new biofilms.2

### ERASE CAUTI®

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Learn more about our CAUTI prevention program at [erasecauti.com](http://erasecauti.com)

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**SHifting GEars SOLVING PROBLEMS.**

The catheter landscape is changing.

**HERE FOR THE HEALTH OF HEALTHCARE.**

Medline exists to keep healthcare healthy. And we’re in an enviable position to do it. Privately held and 100% debt free, we have the freedom and flexibility to develop custom solutions for your unique needs. Plus, the power and capital to deliver on our promises.

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**Here to Innovate.** Ask your Medline Sales Representative about 100% Silicone Foley Catheters.

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**CAUTION**

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WHY SILICONE.
Down to its molecular structure, silicone is built to be an exceptional material for medical applications.

SAFEGUARD AGAINST LATEX SENSITIZATION
Products made with Natural Rubber Latex (NRL) contain variable amounts of proteins that can trigger or exacerbate the risk of sensitization and allergic reactions. Moreover, current methods of measurement do not provide easy or consistent identification of these allergy-causing proteins and their concentrations.

Data shows the chance of a latex-sensitive patient coming to a hospital door escalates daily. An even greater risk is at hand for the healthcare professional, as continued exposure to NRL increases the chance of a latex-sensitive patient coming to a hospital’s door.

WHY NOT SILICONE?
• By removing proteins, silicone reduces the risk of sensitization and allergic reactions.
• Silicone is one of the most thoroughly tested and widely used groups of biomaterials known for its intrinsic biocompatibility.
• Silicone is an exceptional material for medical applications. Down to its molecular structure, silicone is built to be one of the most biocompatible of all biomaterials.
• Silicone is known for its electrical insulation properties, chemical resistance, and its inertness.
• silicone is used in the manufacture of medical devices for all intents and purposes.

WHY MEDLINE?
Medline is an industry leader in quality silicone catheters. Medline made its first silicone catheter in the 1970s. Backed by extensive R&D, Medline is continually innovating to meet the needs of the clinical community.

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DIMINISH PATIENT INFLAMMATORY RESPONSES
Silicone is one of the most thoroughly tested and widely used groups of biomaterials known for its intrinsic biocompatibility. Therefore, Medline 100% silicone Foley catheters are a smarter alternative for your patients to reduce instances of:

• Urinary tract infection (UTI)
• Urinary tract irritation
• Swelling
• Decreased comfort
• Other inflammatory reactions

LOWER THE RISK OF BACTERIAL MIGRATION
Catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI) account for over 40% of hospital-acquired infections. Many cases of CAUTI are caused by organisms that migrate from the urethral meatus, through the catheter lumen into the bladder. Cross-linking is a technique used in the manufacture of silicone to improve catheter biocompatibility. Cross-linking increases the mechanical strength of the silicone material by forming covalent bonds between silicone polymer chains.

One study found that 100% silicone Foley catheters, like the ones available from Medline, had less potential for bacterial migration when compared to latex Foley catheters. Medline’s design also allows the clinician to deliver vigorous irrigation without the risk of collapsing the lumen.

INCREASE DRAINAGE
Proper flow through a Foley catheter is necessary to maintain an empty bladder. Medline’s 100% silicone Foley catheter was designed to have a larger drainage lumen than a latex Foley catheter in order to maximize urine flow. Medline’s design also allows the clinician to deliver vigorous irrigation without the risk of collapsing the lumen.

DECREASE ENCRUSTATION AND BLOCKAGE
Encrustation occurs in up to 50% of patients with long-term catheters. Proper flow reduces these blockages, and their subsequent complications, with Medline 100% silicone Foley catheters.

All-silicone catheters take longer to block than various latex-based catheters.

Catheters with smooth surfaces, such as those prevalent on all-silicone catheters, are shown to collect less encrustation.

Not All Silicone is Built the Same
Specially engineered silicone coupled with a unique design creates a pliable catheter to improve patient comfort.

• Firmer tip nose insertion for the clinician
• Specially designed balloon sits flush against the catheter surface to improve patient comfort
• Large drainage eyes allow for improved drainage flow

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