

Intermittent Catheter HCPCS Code Changes

Frequently asked questions

1. What is changing?

On January 1, 2026, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will make HCPCS code changes for intermittent catheters. The changes include the modification of two existing codes and the addition of three new codes to differentiate intermittent catheters with a hydrophilic coating.

2. What are the new HCPCS codes?

An overview of the current codes and new codes is outlined below.

Current Codes	New Codes: Effective January 1, 2026
A4351 Intermittent urinary catheter; straight tip, with or without coating (teflon, silicone, silicone elastomer, or hydrophilic, etc.), each	A4351 (revised) Intermittent urinary catheter; straight tip, with or without coating (teflon, silicone, silicone elastomer, etc.), each
	A4295 (new) Intermittent urinary catheter; straight tip, hydrophilic coating , each
A4352 Intermittent urinary catheter; coudé (curved) tip, with or without coating (teflon, silicone, silicone elastomer, or hydrophilic, etc.), each	A4352 (revised) Intermittent urinary catheter; coudé (curved) tip, with or without coating (teflon, silicone, silicone elastomer, etc.), each
	A4296 (new) Intermittent urinary catheter; coudé (curved) tip, hydrophilic coating , each
A4353 Intermittent urinary catheter, with insertion supplies	A4353 (unchanged)* Intermittent urinary catheter, with insertion supplies
	A4297 (new) Intermittent urinary catheter; hydrophilic coating , with insertion supplies

*Hydrophilic coated catheters cannot be billed with A4351, A4352 or A4353 as of 1/1/26

3. How do I know which catheters will be moving to the new HCPCS codes?

On June 25, 2025, PDAC updated the intermittent catheter crosswalk identifying new HCPCS codes for hydrophilic intermittent catheters. This 26-page document can be found on PDAC's website [here](#) and includes the following information:

- Manufacturer
- Product name
- Model number
- Current HCPCS code
- Effective begin date
- HCPCS code effective (1/1/26)

4. What are the advantages of hydrophilic coated intermittent catheters?

With users typically performing catheterization 1,825 times a year,¹ the importance of the catheter coating becomes evident. Hydrophilic coated catheters are designed to protect the urethra, help reduce the risk of UTIs, and provide a smooth and gentle catheterization experience.^{2,3}

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5. Will a new prescription be required for the new hydrophilic HCPCS codes?

On July 17, 2025, joint DME MAC publication advised on prescription requirements for the new hydrophilic intermittent catheter HCPCS codes. An overview of the guidance is included below, and more details can be accessed [here](#).

New prescription <u>required</u>	New prescription <u>not required</u>
If the existing prescription includes a HCPCS code (A4351, A4352 or A4353), a new prescription is required. The new order can list the new HCPCS codes (A4295, A4296, or A4297), a general description (e.g., hydrophilic catheter), or a brand name / model.	If the existing prescription is a general description (e.g., hydrophilic catheter), or brand/model number, a new prescription is not required. Since the verbiage identifies a specific hydrophilic catheter, a new prescription is not required.

6. Will Coloplast be notifying intermittent catheters users about these changes?

Yes, to ensure awareness, we will include a sticker on the exterior of our intermittent catheter boxes, and place an insert inside to explain the updates.



7. Where can I find additional information on these changes?

A comprehensive set of resources is available to assist both patients and suppliers. Please explore the links below to access materials designed to guide you through the implementation process.

- Patient Resources: <https://products.coloplast.us/local/keepyourcatheter/>
- Supplier resources: <https://www.coloplastprofessional.us/reimbursement/continence-care-reimbursement/>
- AAHomecare Toolbox: <https://aahomecare.org/Intermittent-Catheters>

For more information, reach out to your local Coloplast Representative.

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1. European Association of Urology Nurses. (2024) Catheterisation Urethral Intermittent in adults. (Reports 4-6 catheterization per day for an adult patient. Assuming 5 times a day for an average adult, it is calculated to be 1825 catheterization/year).
2. Stensballe, J., Looms, D., Nielsen, P. and Tvede, M., 2005. Hydrophilic-Coated Catheters for Intermittent Catheterisation Reduce Urethral Micro Trauma: A Prospective, Randomised, Participant- Blinded, Crossover Study of Three Different Types of Catheters. European Urology, 48(6), pp.978-983. Sponsored by Coloplast, n=49
3. Rognoni C, Tarricone R. Intermittent catheterisation with hydrophilic and non-hydrophilic urinary catheters: systematic literature review and meta-analyses. BMC Urol. 2017 Jan 10;17(1):4. doi: 10.1186/s12894-016-0191-1. PMID: 28073354; PMCID: PMC52255861