Algorithm Example for Urine Management Device Selection

Does your patient have an appropriate indication for an indwelling catheter per your hospital policy?[1]

Indications per Hospital Policy:

No → Consider less invasive options for urine management

Yes

Can your patient's indication be managed with a less invasive option such as:[1]

- Toileting schedule
- External catheter
- Bladder scanning / intermittent catheterization

Yes

No

Obtain order (if needed) and insert indwelling catheter, following manufacturer's directions for use (DFU)

- Ensure indwelling catheter maintenance per hospital policy.[1]
- Reevaluate daily and remove as soon as no longer indicated.[1]

1. *Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. (2025). Guide to preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). https://www.apic.org*

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Algorithm Example for Considering Less Invasive Options for Urine Management

Is your patient able to mobilize or ambulate to a toilet or commode?[1]

Yes → Implement a toileting regimen / schedule

No

Does your patient meet hospital criteria/indications for an external catheter?[1,2]

Yes → Place external catheter following manufacturer's DFU

Indications per Hospital Policy:

Ensure appropriate maintenance per hospital policy and manufacturer's DFU. Ensure skin checks are performed per policy and patients are transitioned off external devices if/when possible.

No

Is your patient able to be managed with bladder scanning and intermittent catheterization?[2]

Yes → Implement bladder scanning / intermittent catheterization protocol[2]

Bladder scanning / intermittent catheterization protocol per hospital:

No

Obtain order (if needed) and insert indwelling catheter, following manufacturer's directions for use (DFU)[2]

- Ensure indwelling catheter maintenance per hospital policy.
- Reevaluate daily and remove as soon as no longer indicated.

1. *Gray, M., Beeson, T., Kent, D., Mackey, D., McNichol, L., Thompson, D. L., & Engberg, S. (2020). Interventions post catheter removal (iPCaRe) in the acute care setting: An evidence- and consensus-based algorithm. Journal of Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing, 47(6), 601–618. https://doi.org/10.1097/WON.0000000000000704*
2. *Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. (2025). Guide to preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). https://www.apic.org*

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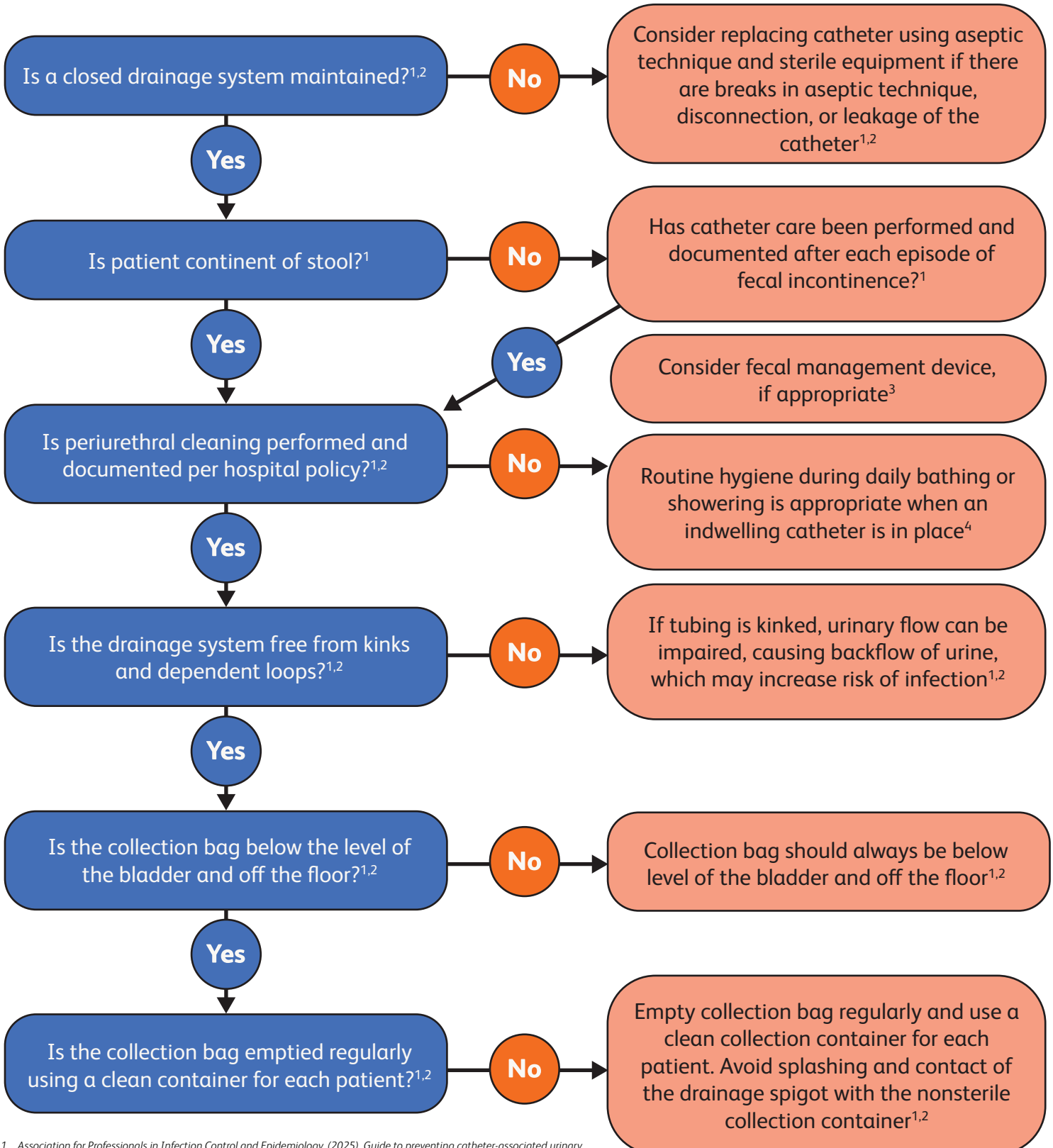
Algorithm Example for Maintaining Indwelling Catheter



1. *Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. (2025). Guide to preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). https://www.apic.org*
2. *Patel, P. K., Advani, S. D., Kofman, A. D., Lo, E., Maragakis, L. L., Pegues, D. A., Pettis, A. M., Saint, S., Trautner, B., & Yokoe, D. S. (2023). Strategies to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections in acute-care hospitals: 2022 update. Infection Control & Hospital Epidemiology, 44(8), 1209–1231. https://doi.org/10.1017/ice.2023.137*
3. *Gutting, T., & Pfützner, A. (2024). The crucial role of fecal management systems in intensive care. Expert Review of Medical Devices, 21(8), 701–707. https://doi.org/10.1080/17434440.2024.2382881*
4. *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2009). Guideline for prevention of catheter-associated urinary tract infections. https://www.cdc.gov/infection-control/media/pdfs/Guideline-CAUTI-H.pdf*

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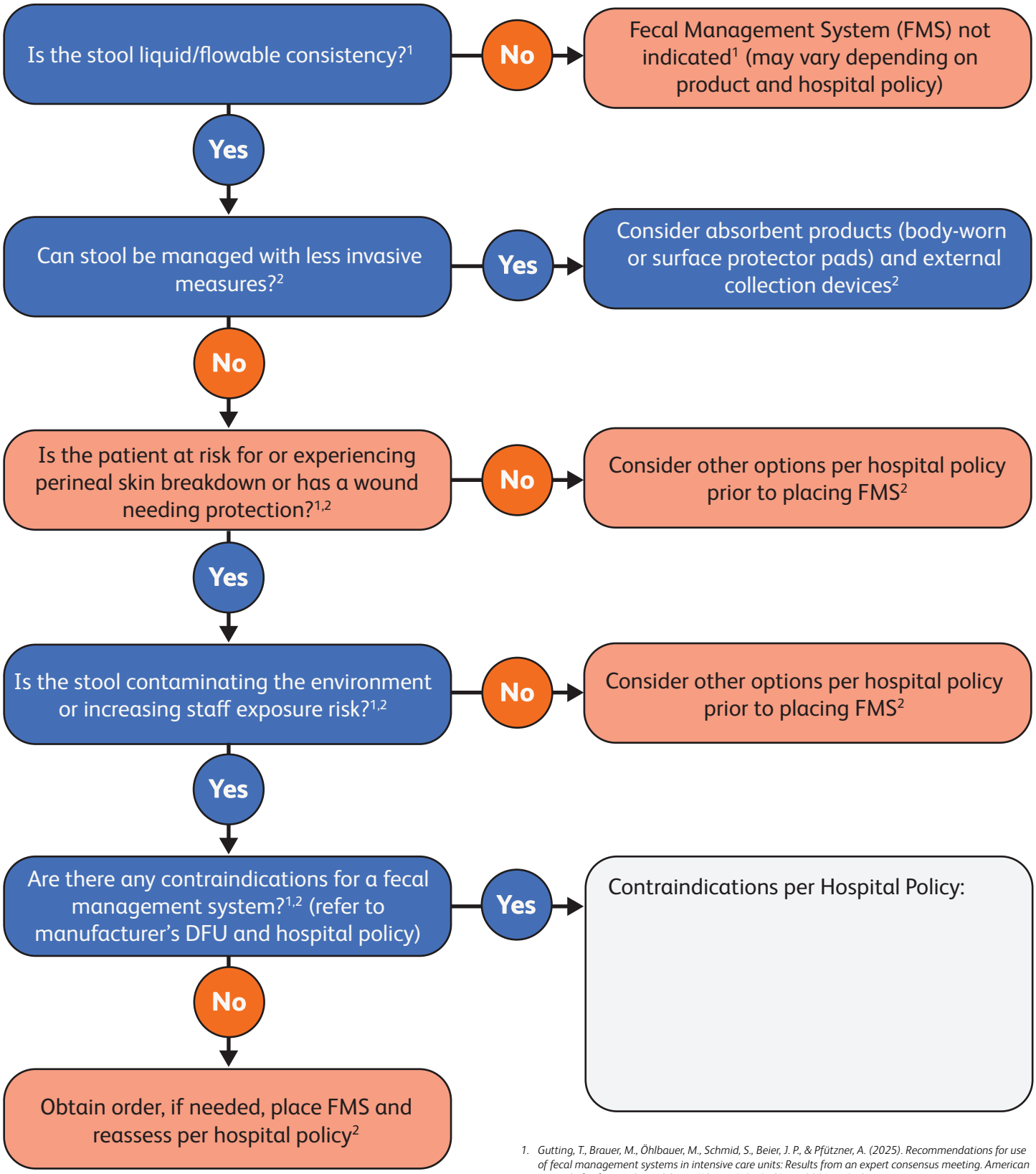
Algorithm Example for Fecal Incontinence Management (with or without a urine management device in place)



1. *Gutting, T., Brauer, M., Öhlbauer, M., Schmid, S., Beier, J. P., & Pfützner, A. (2025). Recommendations for use of fecal management systems in intensive care units: Results from an expert consensus meeting. American Journal of Infection Control. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajic.2025.11.016*
2. *Bliss, D. Z. (Ed.). (2025). Management of fecal incontinence for the advanced practice nurse (2nd ed.). Springer Nature Switzerland AG. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-94526-7*

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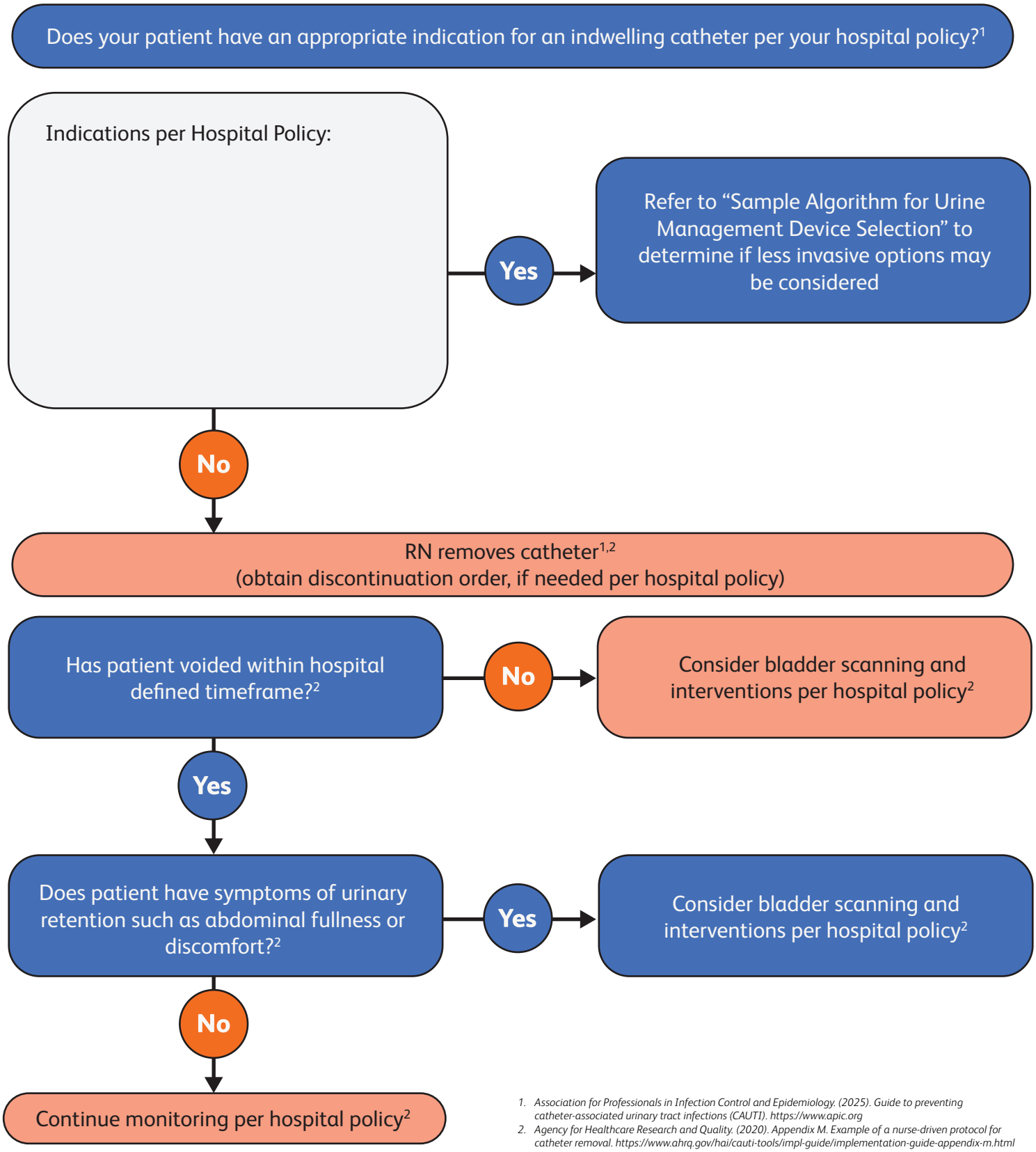
Algorithm Example for Regular Evaluation of Indwelling Catheter Necessity and Removal



1. *Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology. (2025). Guide to preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTI). https://www.apic.org*
2. *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. (2020). Appendix M. Example of a nurse-driven protocol for catheter removal. https://www.ahrq.gov/hai/cauti-tools/impl-guide/implementation-guide-appendix-m.html*

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