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The Direct Delivery Team (DDT) includes clinical researchers, such as nurses and practitioners supporting health and social care teams to conduct research.

Clinical and cost-effectiveness of alternative urinary catheter design - CaDeT

Aim

To see if people have fewer urinary tract infections and catheter-associated problems when they have an Optitip catheter, rather than a traditional Foley catheter.

Community patients who are long-term catheter users don't traditionally get as many opportunities to be involved in research. Most of my clinical background is in acute hospital settings so it was a chance for me to learn about community care while conducting research, which involves identifying and recruiting suitable patients and collecting data from them. It is important to trial new equipment to build a robust evidence base for the best care.

Studies like these highlight issues such as Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs), leakage and blockages that catheter users can have and how this impacts on their lives.

The visits and questionnaire also create a time and space to engage with the patients and collect information about their experience as long-term catheter users.

Once complete, the information gathered will give us a better understanding of what the participant wants from their catheter and whether the Optitip is a comparable to the Foley catheter.

Research can range from patient questionnaires to complex clinical trials involving new medications and equipment. For participants, it can be an opportunity for a new type of care, medication or test. It can be a chance to contribute and feel heard or they may want to give back having received care from us.

Many participants enjoy the social aspect and enjoy the conversations with the research staff.

As a clinician, you get the chance to offer patients perhaps alternative treatments or services that they may not get with standard care.