TECHNICAL NOTES

Feeding a urethral catheter over a guidewire using an intravenous cannula

J Henderson
Wycombe Hospital, High Wycombe, UK

CORRESPONDENCE TO
John Henderson, E: john_henderson@doctors.net.uk

Flexible cystoscopy may be used to negotiate a difficult urethra and a guidewire inserted under direct vision into the bladder. To advance the catheter over the guidewire, the end of the catheter is often cut off. This risks damage to the catheter balloon and creates an irregular surface that may get stuck in a narrow urethra. The technique shown in Figures 1–4 maintains the smooth contour of the catheter tip using readily available equipment.

Figure 1 Large intravenous cannula (12G) inserted through catheter tip

Figure 2 Needle removed and guidewire back-fed through cannula

Figure 3 Cannula removed

Figure 4 Guidewire advanced through catheter