

Using a Commode

- Infection control procedures apply
- Wear suitable protective equipment, especially gloves
- Ensure absolute privacy and dignity
- Put the commode in the right place - next to bed, wheelchair etc.
- Are commode, wheelchair wheels etc. locked?
- Where possible, adjust the bed to the height of commode etc.
- Using the correct method, help the person transfer to the commode
- Make sure they are appropriately dressed to keep warm
- Whether you stay with the person or not is determined by their choice, assessment etc. and recorded in the care plan - you must follow the care plan
- Check, have they finished using the commode?
- When they have finished, encourage them to clean themselves, helping where necessary using the correct methods
- Wash their anal and/or genital areas
- Dry them properly
- Empty the commode according to your internal procedures
- The commode receptacle should be sterilised, preferably in an appropriate steriliser
- Using hot water and an appropriate cleaning agent, wash the commode chair
- Rinse it and dry it with paper towel
- Finally, wipe the commode chair with an appropriate disinfectant
- Note: CoSHH procedures apply

