Wallchart to assess outcomes following vesicovaginal fistula repair — a key chart from the FIGO Fistula Surgery Training Manual provided separately for rapid and easy reference.
Assessing Outcomes Following Vesicovaginal Fistula Repair

10 to 14 days postoperatively, before removing Foley catheter, perform a dye test

Positive dye test
- **Leave** Foley catheter in for 7 more days
- **During this time**, observe if patient is leaking any urine while walking, sitting, lying in bed
- **Consider** nursing patient in prone position when in bed

Negative dye test
- **Remove** Foley catheter
- **Ask** patient to drink sufficient fluids to ensure urine is clear
- Throughout the next 24-48 hours, measure and record patient's voided volume and postvoid residual volume of urine 3 times (even if patient is wet)

During the 7 days:
- Wetness is **absent or decreasing**
- **If wetness is absent**, leave Foley catheter in place until patient has been dry for 7 days
- **If wetness is decreasing**, consider leaving Foley catheter in place for up to 4 weeks until the patient is dry, then keep in situ for 7 additional days

During the 7 days:
- Wetness is **increasing or staying the same**
- And amount of urine in drainage bag/bucket is decreasing or staying the same

Residual volume is less than 100 mL and less than 50% of voided amount

Residual volume is greater than 100 mL or greater than 50% of voided amount

The day after the Foley catheter has been removed, carry out pad test:
- **Ask** patient to drink 500 mL of water, and then to wear a pad while walking and doing normal activities for 60 minutes
- If scales are available, weigh pad before and after, subtracting initial dry weight from wet weight to get an objective measure of urinary leakage and record findings
- If scales are not available, check if pad is wet and record findings

Pad is dry
- **Outcome**: Fistula not closed/repair broken and patient incontinent of urine

Pad is wet
- **Outcome**: Fistula closed and patient continent of urine (cured)

A few days after Foley catheter removal, arrange for discharge and usual follow-up
- **Outcome**: Fistula closed but patient has ongoing urinary incontinence

Investigate and plan appropriate management

Teach clean intermittent self-catheterisation 3 times a day until patient is emptying bladder completely or residual volume is less than 100 mL and less than 50% of voided amount

From the surgical perspective, a vesicovaginal fistula repair can be confirmed as successful if:

- The **dye test is negative** prior to removal of the Foley catheter (normally, between 10-14 days postoperatively).
- After the Foley catheter has been removed, the **postvoid residual volume of urine is less than 100 mL and less than 50% of the voided amount**.
- The **pad is dry** the day after the Foley catheter has been removed.

Extract reprinted from the FIGO FISTULA SURGERY TRAINING MANUAL