ASYMPTOMATIC BACTERIURIA* VS. URINARY TRACT INFECTION (UTI) IN PATIENTS WITH ALTERED MENTAL STATUS

UTI UNLIKELY



- Do not order urinalysis
 (UA)/culture
- No antibiotics

"WATCH AND WAIT"



- Order UA/culture
- Pyuria or bacteriuria
 without symptoms ≠ UTI
- No empiric antibiotics if clinically stable

UTI LIKELY



- Order UA/culture
- Empiric antibiotics if>10 WBC (pyuria)

Presentation:

- Angina/myocardial infarction
- Pulmonary embolism
- Atrial-fibrillation
- Total knee/hip arthroplasty
- Stroke/transient ischemic attack

Management

No indication for testing or treatment

Presentation:

- NEW weakness, confusion, and/or leukocytosis WITHOUT other cause
- High likelihood based on history of recurrent UTIs

Management

Monitor for improvement with supportive care

Presentation:

 NEW dysuria, frequency, urgency, hematuria suprapubic or flank pain or tenderness, fever

Management

- Empiric antibiotics per local guidelines
- Consider discontinuing if negative culture

Presentation:

- Mechanical fall
- Altered mental status at baseline

Management

 No indication for testing or treatment

Presentation:

- Fall of unknown etiology
- NEW weakness or confusion

Management

- MD to assess for follow-up and inform patient/caregiver of appropriate precautions
- Emergency Department (ED)
 pharmacist will follow-up
 culture results

Presentation:

 NEW dysuria, frequency, urgency, hematuria, suprapubic or flank pain or tenderness, fever

Management

- Empiric antibiotics per local guidelines
- ED pharmacist will follow-up culture result

Exclusions: Treat asymptomatic bacteriuria in:

- Pregnant patients
- Prior to urologic procedure with mucosal trauma

Typical colonizers/contaminants which do not usually require treatment: viridans streptococci, *Lactobacillus spp.*, diptheroids, *Bacillus spp.*, and coagulase-negative staphylococci

Cloudy/smelly urine alone does not indicate a UTI.

Epithelial cells can represent contamination. Recommend repeat sample, with a straight catheter if indicated.

Collect urine from new catheter and send promptly (avoid urine sitting in catheter tubing or bag).





