

# LOEB CRITERIA FOR INITIATION OF ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY FOR URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS IN SKILLED NURSING FACILITIES

**Indwelling Urinary  
Catheter**  
(Foley or suprapubic)

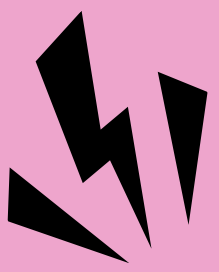
**+ at least 1 of the following:**



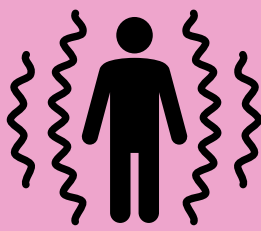
**Fever**

**T > 37.8°C (100°F)**

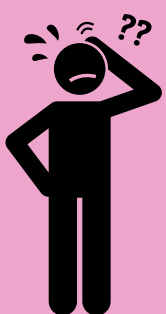
[or 1.5°C (2.4°F) increase above  
baseline temperature]



**New  
costovertebral  
angle tenderness**



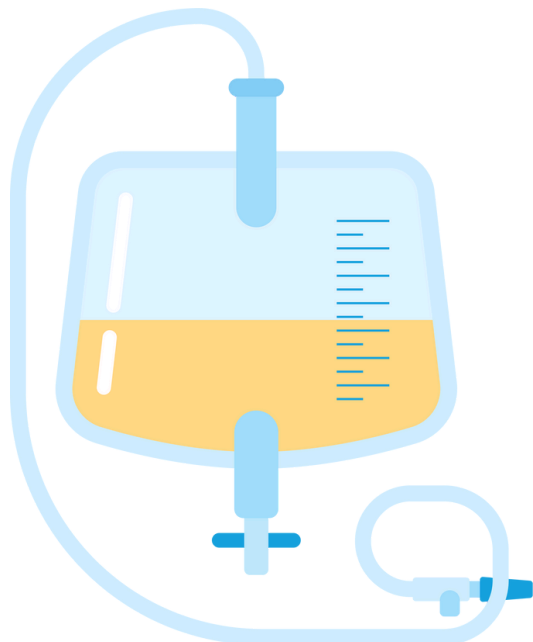
**Rigors  
(shaking chills)**



**New onset of  
delirium\*\***

\*\*Delirium - disturbance of  
consciousness with reduced ability to  
focus, shift, or sustain attention.

Foul-smelling and/or cloudy urine  
alone without symptoms is **NOT** a  
valid indication for starting antibiotics.



**No Urinary Catheter\***

\*Includes intermittent  
catheterization or condom catheter

**+**



**Acute dysuria**

**OR**



**Fever**

**T > 37.8°C (100°F)**

[or 1.5°C (2.4°F) increase above  
baseline temperature]

**+ at least 1 of the following:**



**New or worsening  
urgency**



**New or worsening  
frequency**



**New urinary  
incontinence**



**Gross hematuria**



**Costovertebral  
angle tenderness**



**Suprapubic pain**

Symptoms of urgency, frequency, or  
incontinence without dysuria and the absence  
of systemic symptoms can wait for urine culture  
results prior to antibiotic initiation.