


## LIVING BRANCHES URINARY TRACT INFECTION (UTI) EVALUATION GUIDELINE

Healthcare facilities may consider creating a form similar to that used by Living Branches to guide staff in the treatment of UTI.



**Urinary Tract Infection Evaluation Guideline**

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**Signs and Symptoms:** - circle all positive findings -

<u>UTI specific:</u>		<u>Non-specific:</u>
Fever	Hematuria	Agitation
Suprapubic pain	Costovertebral pain	Confusion
Dysuria (burning)	New Incontinence	Change in Mental Status
Leukocytosis	Frequency/Urgency	

**Lab Testing: Urinalysis (UA) and Urine Culture (C&S)**

- Both a UA and Urine Culture should always be ordered together for residents of LTC facilities.
- A Foley catheter in place for >14 days should be replaced prior to obtaining a sample for culture.
- 1<sup>st</sup> clean catch of the morning is best. Refrigerate cultures or put on ice to avoid false positive cultures!

**Watchful Waiting = Monitor & document symptoms & behavior, PUSH FLUIDS (if clinically appropriate) and continue considering other causes.**

**Evaluation and Management Options** (The Options are a guide when speaking to the MD about culture and antibiotic orders)

- If **entirely non-specific** signs and symptoms (**no urinary symptoms**):
  - Stop evaluation **OR**
  - Obtain UA C&S but use **Watchful Waiting** until C&S results available
- If **mixed specific and non-specific** signs and symptoms:
  - Obtain UA C&S but use **Watchful Waiting** until C&S results available **OR**
  - Obtain UA C&S and call MD for empiric antibiotic **only if symptoms severe**
- If **multiple specific** signs and symptoms (**higher suspicion of UTI**)
  - Obtain UA C&S and await C&S results if symptoms moderate **OR**
  - Obtain UA C&S and obtain order for empiric therapy **if symptoms severe**

**Re-Evaluation in 24-48 hours:** If UA C&S negative – Call MD to **stop antibiotic!**

- If UA C&S is **positive** and signs/symptoms **persist** – obtain antibiotic order.
- If UA C&S is **positive** and signs/symptoms **no longer present** – call MD to report results and that resident is currently without symptoms, encourage **Watchful Waiting**

**Remember: THE A CHOICE IS THE BEST CHOICE FOR ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP!**  
Source: Adapted from PMDA Urinary Tract Infection Evaluation Guideline 10/2014

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For more information, visit <http://patientsafety.pa.gov>.  
This sample tool accompanies  
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[http://patientsafety.pa.gov/ADVISORIES/Pages/201709\\_UTI.aspx](http://patientsafety.pa.gov/ADVISORIES/Pages/201709_UTI.aspx)