Positive Urine Culture

Catheter-Associated UTI

Definition
Presence of symptoms with greater than $10^6$ CFU/L of ≥ 1 bacterial species in a single catheter urine specimen or in a midstream voided urine after catheter removal for 48 hours, with a positive urinalysis for pyuria

Possible Signs & Symptoms:
New onset or worsening fever, rigors, altered mental status, malaise, or lethargy with no other identified cause; flank pain; costovertebral tenderness; acute hematuria; pelvic discomfort and in those with catheter removed dysuria, urgent or frequent urination or suprapubic pain or tenderness.

- If spinal cord injury, symptoms may also include increased spasticity, autonomic dysreflexia OR a sense of unease

Was the catheter changed immediately before urine culture was collected?

YES

Treat according to urine C&S only if symptoms present (adjust according to C&S results)

NO

If catheter required, obtain urine culture and urinalysis through new catheter prior to initiation of antimicrobial therapy
Or
If catheter is not required, culture voided midstream urine prior to initiation of antimicrobial therapy

Treat according to NB-ASC UTI Treatment Guideline¹ if symptoms present (adjust according to C&S results)

Asymptomatic Bacteriuria

Urological Procedure
(mucosal bleeding expected)

Surgical Prophylaxis²

Pregnant

NO

Do NOT Treat

YES

Treat according to NB-ASC UTI Treatment Guideline¹ if symptoms present (adjust according to C&S results)

Symptomatic Bacteriuria

Cystitis (lower UTI)
Dysuria, urgency, frequency, or suprapubic pain with no fever or flank pain; change in cognitive function or activities of daily living REQUIRE careful clinical assessment, never assume these are due to UTI

Pyelonephritis (upper UTI)
Fever, flank pain, costovertebral tenderness, abdominal/pelvic pain, nausea, vomiting with or without signs/symptoms of lower tract UTI

See NB-ASC UTI Treatment Guideline¹ for Treatment Options
(Adjust Antimicrobial Therapy According to Urine C&S Results)

¹Treatment of Adult Urinary Tract Infections (NB Health Authorities Anti-Infective Stewardship Committee, May 2014)
²Surgical Prophylaxis Guidelines (NB Health Authorities Anti-Infective Stewardship Committee, May 2015)
³Urine culture may be contaminated by colonized bacteria.