

# Does your patient have a Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)?

**A POSITIVE urine culture is NOT enough!**

## Who should I NOT send a urine culture for?

Routine ordering on admission



- Foul smelling urine
- Change in urine colour
- Cloudy urine

Test of cure (Except if pregnant)

## Who should I send a urine culture for?

Symptoms consistent with a UTI or pyelonephritis



Routine screen during pregnancy

Urinalysis: positive leukocyte esterase & nitrates PLUS UTI symptoms

## Who needs antibiotics?

**NOT all patients with a positive urine culture need antibiotics**

(Exceptions: during pregnancy and urologic procedure with mucosal bleeding)

Always assess patients for **UTI symptoms** before confirming the need for antibiotics:

- Frequency
- Urgency
- Dysuria (pain on urination)
- Flank pain or tenderness
- Suprapubic pain or tenderness
- Temperature  $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$

**Using antibiotics in patients without symptoms of UTI:**

- ↑ Antibiotic adverse events
- ↑ *C. difficile* infection & other infections (e.g., fungal – oral and vaginal candidiasis)
- ↑ Antibiotic resistance

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