UI - Initial Assessment of Women: dipstick urine testing

Information for GPs and healthcare professionals
Please ensure that you have sought the necessary consent from the patient to share their information across different healthcare professionals to ensure continuity of care.

Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care System

Initial Assessment of Women with Urinary Incontinence

See pathway
UI - Assessment of Women

Does she have symptoms of UTI?

UTI symptoms & UI

Click for more info

Send MSU, consider dipstick urine test & Rx empirically with Nitrofurantoin or trimethoprim

See pathway
Treatment of Infections
(under development)

UTI

Incontinence resolved

No further action

Incontinence persists

See pathway
UI - Assessment of Women

No UTI

No UTI symptoms

Click for more info

Dipstick urine

Positive leucocytes and nitrites

Send MSU

Empirical treatment Nitrofurantoin or trimethoprim while awaiting result

Positive leucocytes or nitrites

Send MSU

Await result (unless advanced significant symptoms)

Glucose positive

Capillary blood glucose & HbA1c

Raised capillary glucose and/or HbA1c

See pathway
Diabetes – Suspected in Adults
(under development)

Normal capillary glucose AND HbA1c

Haematuria > trace no leucocytes or nitrites

See pathway
Bladder/Renal Cancer – Suspected

See pathway
Gynaecological Cancer – Suspected

NAD

See pathway
UI - Assessment of Women

UTI

Treat with antibiotic

Incontinence resolved

No further action

Incontinence persists

See pathway
UI - Assessment of Women

No UTI

See pathway
UI - Assessment of Women

Back to pathway

UTI symptoms & UI

Women should have a midstream urine specimen sent for culture and analysis of antibiotic sensitivities.

- An appropriate course of antibiotic treatment should be prescribed pending culture results.
- Give lifestyle advice:
    - Fluid intake: it is important to maintain normal fluid intake.
    - Correct hygiene i.e. wiping technique post void.
    - Constipation? Treat if appropriate.
    - Simple pain relief e.g. Paracetamol.

Back to pathway

No UTI symptoms

Women should not be offered antibiotics without the results of midstream urine culture.

- Give lifestyle advice:
  - Fluid intake: 1.5-2 per day/ lemon-based fluids.
  - Correct hygiene i.e. wiping technique post void.
  - Constipation? Treat if appropriate.
  - If painful offer simple pain relief e.g. Paracetamol.