

## Asymptomatic

Includes:

- cloudy/malodorous urine without other symptoms
- Positive dipstick without urinary symptoms

**Do not dipstick**  
**Do not send urine for culture**  
**Do not treat empirically**



## Symptomatic - cystitis

**Typical symptoms.**  
**Acute onset of  $\geq 2$  of:**

- Dysuria
- Frequency
- Urgency
- Suprapubic pain

**Dipstick not required**

**Empiric nitrofurantoin\***

- Urine culture not required **unless complicating patient factors**

**Only 1 typical symptom**

**Dipstick for white cells**

**Positive**

**Empiric nitrofurantoin\***

- Urine culture not required **unless complicating patient factors**

**Negative**

**UTI unlikely**

- Culture not required
- Look for alternative cause

## Symptomatic – complicated UTI

Includes:

- Systemically unwell e.g. fever
- Upper tract UTI e.g. pyelonephritis
- Male

**Dipstick not required.**

**Send urine for culture.**

Ensure request form states suspected complicated UTI (the lab releases different antibiotics for complicated UTI\*\*)

## Complicating patient factors

- Contraindications to nitrofurantoin
- Pregnancy
- Abnormal urinary tract
- Recent instrumentation
- Recent MDRO or suspicion of antibiotic resistance
- Treatment failure or recurrent UTIs

**\*Empiric Rx should be withheld if possible until culture result if complicating factors.**

Ensure request form states any of these – this alters the reporting of the result.

## \*\*Antibiotics for UTI

- These agents are useful for uncomplicated cystitis (if susceptible). They should generally be avoided for complicated UTI :
  - > Nitrofurantoin
  - > Trimethoprim
- These agents can be used for complicated UTI (if susceptible):
  - > Co-trimoxazole
  - > Amoxicillin or Augmentin
  - > Ciprofloxacin