PrimeWest Health Best Practice Guidelines For: Symptoms of Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)

Symptoms or Signs of UTI

- Painful urination (dysuria)
- Lower abdominal tenderness
- Blood in the urine
- New or worsening urinary urgency, frequency, incontinence

Take Vital Signs

- Temperature
- Blood pressure (BP), pulse
- Respirations
- Finger stick glucose (those with diabetes)

Vital Sign Criteria (Any met?)

- Temp >100.5° (>38.05°C)
- Apical heart rate >100?
- Respiratory rate >30/min?
- BP <90 systolic?
- Finger stick glucose <70 or >400?

OR

- Unable to eat or dink?

YES → **Notify MD/NP/PA Immediately**

NO ↓

Consider Contacting MD/NP/PA for Orders for Lab Testing

- Urinalysis
- Urine culture and sensitivity
  -Collect clean voided specimen if possible; in-and-out catheter only if necessary
  -For those with indwelling Foley catheter:
  - **Change** the catheter
  - Send urine obtained from new catheter
- Complete blood count
- Basic metabolic panel

Evaluate Lab Results and Reassess

- Critical values in blood count or metabolic panel?
- White blood count (WBC) >12,000?
- Persistent nausea or vomiting?
- Unstable vital signs?

YES → **Consider Transfer to Acute Care Facility**

NO ↓

Further Nursing Assessment

- Meets minimum criteria for initiating antibiotics:
  -Dysuria alone
  -Fever >100° F (37.9° C) or 2.4° F (1.5° C) increase above baseline and one of the signs or symptoms listed above

YES →

Manage in Facility – Options

- Monitor vital signs every 4 – 8 hours
- Oral, IV, or subcutaneous hydration as indicated
- Antibiotic therapy for at least 7 and up to 14 days (check allergies)
  Oral (7 – 14 days):
  -Amoxicillin 500 mg tid
  -Cefuroxime 125-250 mg tid
  -Ciprofuroxacin 250-750 mg bid
  -Nitrofurantoin 100 mg bid (with adequate renal function)
  -Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole 160/800 bid

NOTIFY MD/NP/PA ↓

Discontinue Antibiotic if Culture Negative

NO ↓

Monitor and Reassess

- Monitor vital signs and symptoms
- Check results of urinalysis **and** culture
- Consider antibiotic treatment if individual meets above criteria