

1. Introduction:

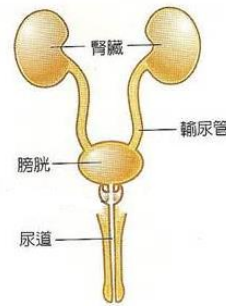
Urinary tract infections occur when the ureters, bladder, urethra, and kidneys become partially or entirely infected from bacteria and is one of the reasons for unexplained fever. The instance of urinary tract infections for infants is greater for boys. However, as children get older and develop, girls have a higher instance of urinary tract infections.

2. How do urinary tract infections occur?

The primary cause of urinary tract infections is E. coli. These bacteria are normally present in the colon and may enter the urethral opening from the skin around the anus and genitals. Many of the infants that contract urinary tract infections get them because of combined congenital urinary tract conditions. In infants another cause is back flow of urine through the ureters. During infancy, baby girls are more likely to contract urinary infections because their urethra is much shorter and therefore bacteria from the colon has a greater likelihood of causing an infection. In addition, poor hygiene practices and tendency to hold back urine are common causes of urinary tract infections.

3. Infection chart:

1. Vertical path infection: bacteria enters the urethra=>bladder=>ureters=>kidneys and causes an infection.
2. Causes an infection of the blood.
3. Causes an infection of the lymph nodes.



4. Symptoms:

In older infants the most common symptoms of urinary tract infections are: frequent urination, difficulty urinating, pain while urinating, lack of urine, cloudy or otherwise dirty urine, fever, abdominal pain, back pain, incontinence, diarrhea, and even cloudy or bloody urine etc. During infancy, most babies do not have visible symptoms making it difficult to diagnose early. Possible symptoms include: fever, uncontrollable crying, loss of appetite, lowered mobility, diarrhea, decrease in growth development, and jaundice etc.

5. Diagnosis:

In addition to evaluation of treatment, there is urinalysis, and 'culture and sensitivity' may be done to determine the type of bacteria and how to treat the infection.

6. Related examinations:

1. Kidney ultrasound: Check to see if there are any shape abnormalities in the kidneys, ureters, and bladder.
2. Kidney CAT scan: to see if there is any inflammation or scarring of the kidneys.
3. Cystoscopy: to see if there is a back flow of urine into the ureters or bladder.



- If your baby develops a fever he should be brought back to hospital for another urinalysis.

7. Home care:

- Change your baby's diaper regularly, keep his bottom clean, and be sure to clean the stool well with wipes.
- While cleaning the perineum, be sure to **wipe from the groin towards the anus.** This will help prevent the urethra from becoming infected from bacteria.
- When bathing baby boys, be sure to fold back the foreskin and clean well. This will help prevent the urethra from becoming infected from bacteria.
- Unless otherwise instructed, encourage your baby to drink more water.
- Encourage him to urinate frequently; do not allow him to hold it back.
- Have your baby wear cotton underwear; no tight fitting underwear should be worn.
- You should give your baby a shower and avoid bubble baths and any soap with heavy perfumes or chemicals.
- Take your doctor prescribed medicine regularly and on time and come back for scheduled check-ups. Do not stop taking your prescription medicine or begin taking any antibiotics.**

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Urinary tract infection and home care



NURSING DEPARTMENT

Consulting phone number:

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