**URINE SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND CULTURE DURING CATHETERISATION**
- **ADULT ACUTE CARE SETTINGS** -

**Does your patient with an IDC need a urine culture?**

*Use the decision tree below to determine if it is necessary to collect a urine specimen for culture from an adult catheterised patient and the type of specimen to be collected.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Is a septic work up required AND/OR does patient have UTI symptoms?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adults with a UTI may present with ≥1 of the following symptoms with no other recognised cause: fever, suprapubic tenderness, costovertebral angle pain or tenderness, delirium or hypothermia (&lt;35.5°C core).</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**NO**

- Disregard the appearance or smell of urine (e.g. cloudy, sediment, foul smelling)
- Disregard positive urinalysis results for protein, leucocytes, blood or nitrite

**Do not collect any urine specimens for culture**

**YES**

**Is the IDC still clinically indicated?**

- If IDC was removed, would patient be able to produce a clean MSU?

**NO**

- Collect CSU from the existing IDC
  - Note: It may be difficult to interpret culture results if catheter has been in situ >48 hours due to biofilm colonisation.

**YES**

- Remove IDC and collect MSU

**Remember:**

- Avoid dipstick urinalysis for asymptomatic patients - positive reactions for nitrite, pyuria, leukocyte and protein are likely but do not warrant laboratory investigation.
- Adults with spinal cord injury may have a different symptom presentation or may not present with pain. Seek further advice from a senior clinician if UTI is suspected.
- Asepsis must be maintained when collecting specimens and changing catheters.
- Document the indication for urine specimen collection.
- Interpret urine culture results with caution if patient was on an antimicrobial regime at the time of or prior to specimen collection.
- Signs and symptoms of UTI among older patients, particularly those with dementia, are often vague or atypical.

IDC: Indwelling urinary catheter
UTI: Urinary tract infection
MSU: Mid stream urine
CSU: Catheter specimen of urine

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