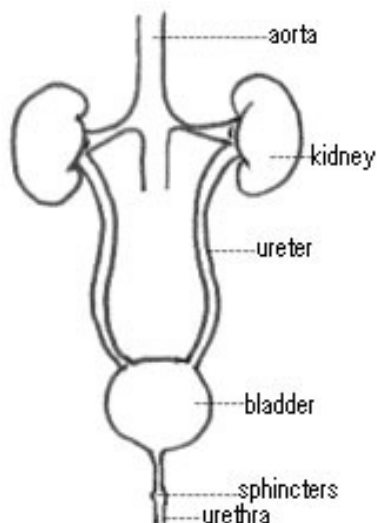


Urinary Tract Infection Information Form

What is a urinary tract infection (UTI)?

- A urinary tract infection or UTI occurs when bacteria, virus or fungus enters the normally sterile urinary tract and causes inflammation of the tissues.



What are typical symptoms of UTIs?

In Babies

- Fever
- Abdominal pain; colic
- Abdominal fullness
- Foul smelling urine
- Poor growth
- Weight loss or failure to gain weight
- Irritability
- Vomiting
- Poor feeding
- Diarrhea

In Older Children

- Urgency to urinate
- Incontinence during day and/or night
- Frequent urination
- Discomfort in the lower abdomen
- Blood in the urine
- Foul smelling urine
- Fever
- Chills
- Pain in the back or side below the ribs
- Fatigue
- Small amount of urine while voiding despite feeling of urgency

What is important about UTIs with fever?

- UTIs can happen in the lower urinary tract and the upper urinary tract. In general, when UTIs affect the upper urinary tract, fever is part of the presentation.
- UTIs with fever suggest that the kidney tissue itself may be infected. In as many as half of the cases of kidney infection a scar or kidney damage can develop. For this reason, we feel that it is important that children with UTI and fever have additional testing.

How do I get my child's UTI evaluated?

- You may decide where you would like your child evaluated for his/her UTI. Many children begin their evaluation with their pediatrician or primary care doctor. Depending on your doctor's routine, your child may be referred to one of our Urologist for evaluation.
- If you wish, you may call the Urology Department directly to schedule a follow-up by dialing 202-476-5042 option 3, and let the administrative personnel know that your child was just seen at Children's National Medical Center with a "febrile UTI".
- It is also important that you know that your child may qualify for one of several research studies being done by the Urology Department. The benefits to you and your child might include more frequent follow-up and testing of their urinary tract at no cost to you. Incentives for your participation might also include financial compensation for your time and effort during your involvement in the research study.