

Key points: Urine test results Acute care | Adults

1. Urinalysis (UA)–macroscopy / dipstick

Positive UA or dipstick

- leukocytes $\geq 1+$, *or*
- >5 WBC/hpf on microscopy

Nitrates and bacteria are not reliable for diagnosing infection

UA positive

Negative UA

- leukocytes negative or $< 1+$, *or*
- ≤ 5 WBC/hpf on microscopy

This reasonably rules out urinary tract infections (UTIs) in most patients.

UA negative

In older adults, microscopy is more accurate than dipstick for ruling out UTIs

2. Urine Culture

Positive urine culture

- 10^6 CFU/L: May be a significant colony count if patient has UTI symptoms.

Urine culture positive

Negative urine culture

Urine culture negative + UA negative

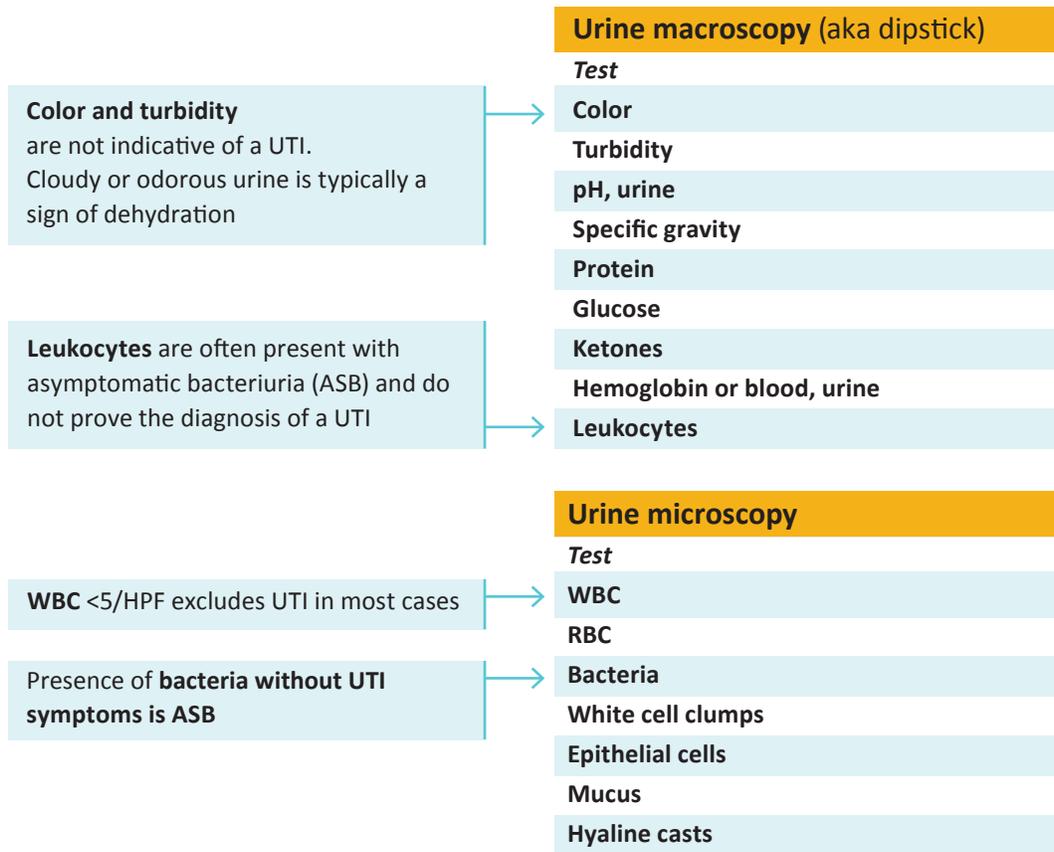
Urine culture negative + UA positive

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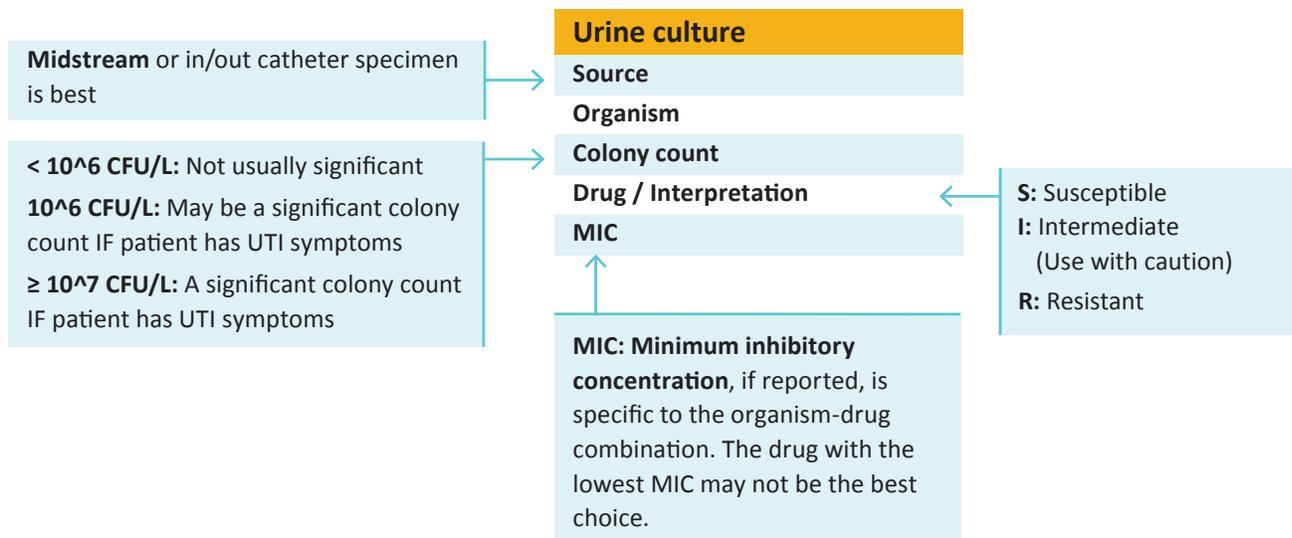
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Interpreting Urine Test Results Acute Care | Adults



Select the agent most appropriate for the patient and with the narrowest spectrum of activity



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