

# 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*
- $\leq$ 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**

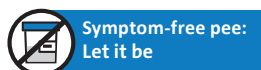
**Negative urine culture**

**Urine culture negative + UA negative**

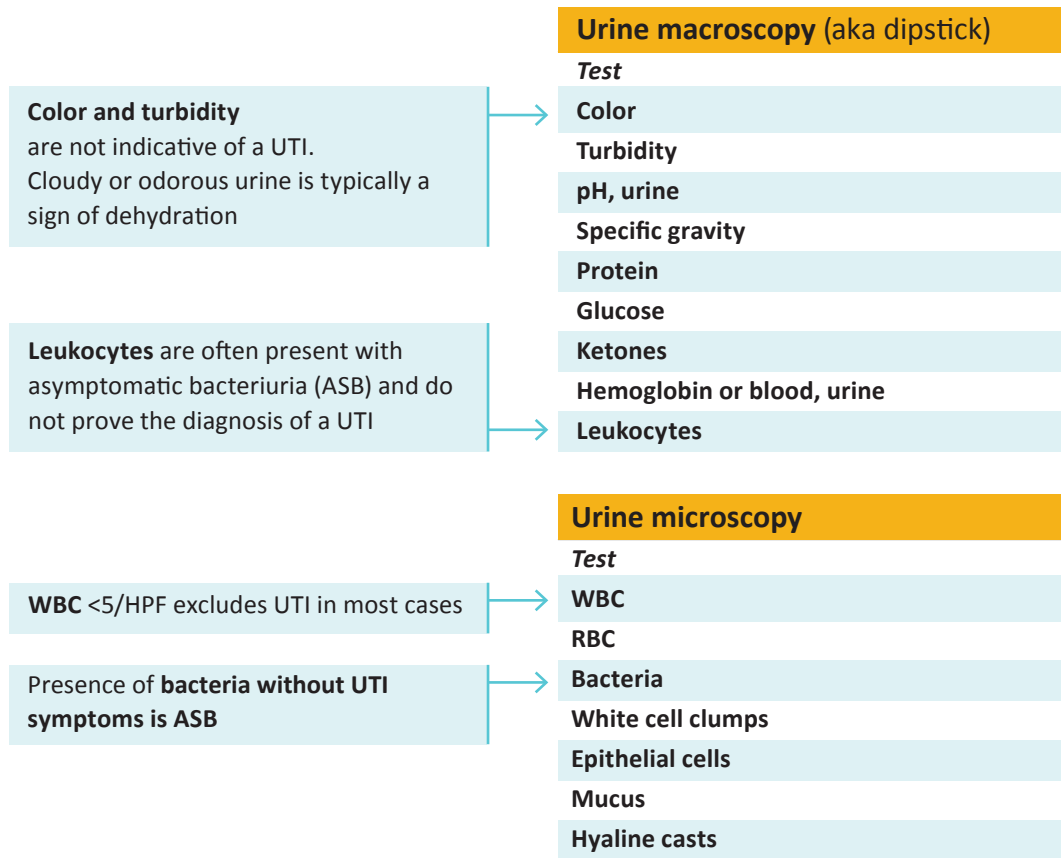
**Urine culture negative + UA positive**

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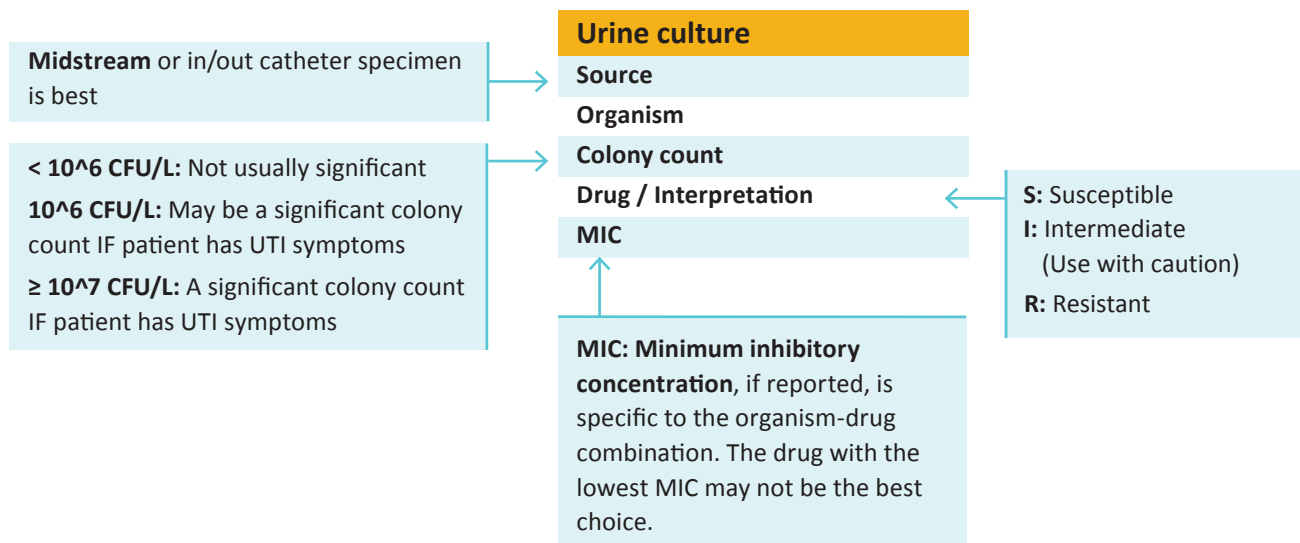
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# Interpreting Urine Test Results Acute Care | Adults



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



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