

# Key points: Urine test results Acute care | Adults

## 1. Urinalysis (UA)–macroscopy / dipstick

**Positive UA or dipstick**

- leukocytes  $\geq 1+$  ( $\geq 70$  Leu/ $\mu$ L)
- or*
- $>5$  WBC/hpf on microscopy

Nitrates and bacteria are not reliable for diagnosing infection

**Negative UA**

- leukocytes negative, trace or  $< 1+$  ( $< 70$  Leu/ $\mu$ L)
- or*
- $\leq 5$  WBC/hpf on microscopy

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

**UA positive**

**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.

**Negative urine culture**

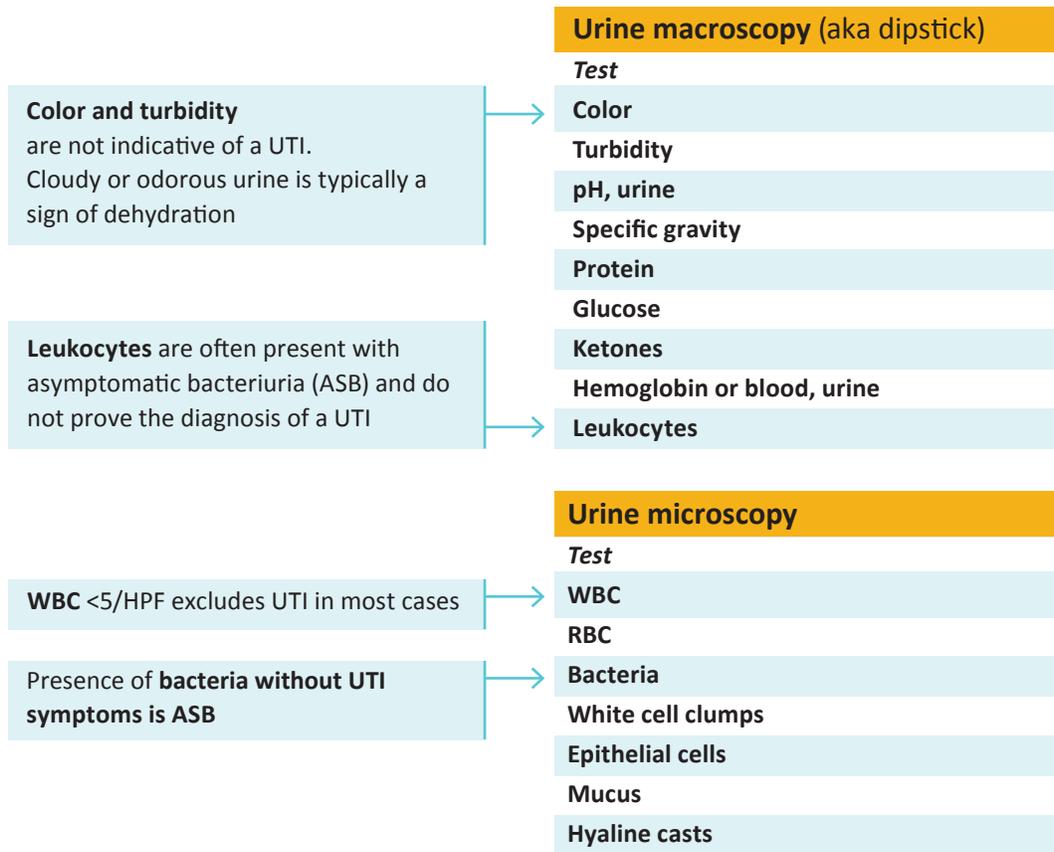
**Urine culture positive**

**Urine culture negative + UA negative**

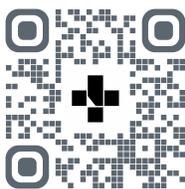
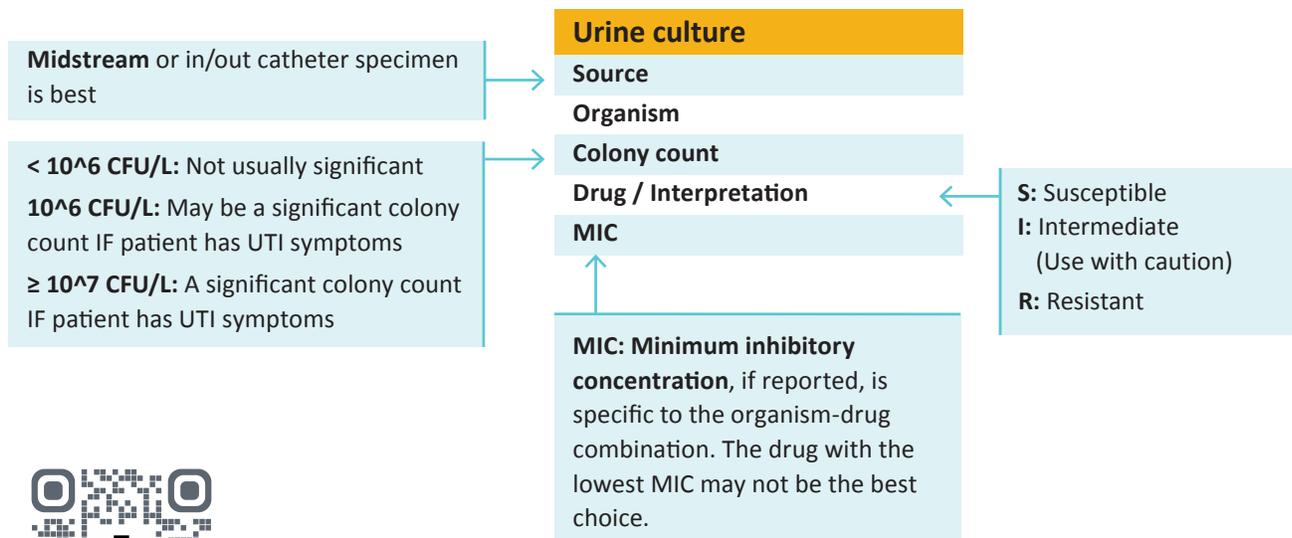
**Urine culture negative + UA positive**



# 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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