



# DO YOU SUSPECT A URINARY TRACT INFECTION IN A NURSING HOME RESIDENT?



## STOP

Talk to the resident and their carers and ask about symptoms, signs, and changes in toilet habits

There are only **general/non-specific** symptoms



**Specific** symptoms are present

**GENERAL SYMPTOMS THAT NEITHER CONFIRM NOR DISPUTE THE DIAGNOSIS:**



- Delirium
- Fatigue
- Fall
- Urine has a bad smell
- Changed colour of urine

**SPECIFIC SYMPTOMS THAT RAISE SUSPICION OF A URINARY TRACT INFECTION**

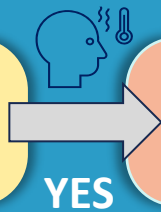
- New-onset burning sensation or pain during urination
- OR 2 or more of the following:**
  - High fever
  - Pain/tenderness in the flank or lower abdomen
  - Increased frequency of urination
  - Increased or new-onset urinary incontinence or urinary retention
  - Visible blood in urine

**MONITORING AND MEASUREMENTS**



- Vital signs at least 1x a day
- Encourage to drink more
- Talk to a doctor in case of a fall or delirium

**GENERAL SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION?\***



YES

**TALK TO A DOCTOR**



NO



Performing a **urine dipstick test** when symptoms are only non-specific and no definite signs of infection are present is **NOT** good practice and may provide misleading results.

**Urine dipstick test taken on wrong assumptions:**

- 1) Can distract from the root cause and cause a diagnostic delay
- 2) May lead to unnecessary or inaccurate treatment

\*High fever (>38°C or 1.5°C above the person's average temperature), rapid pulse, increased breathing rate, chills, sweating