CUMITECH 2A

Laboratory Diagnosis of Urinary Tract Infections

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Urinary tract infections are among the most common infections of humans. The majority of cases are caused by a limited number of bacterial genera, and the presence of these microorganisms in urine is termed bacteriuria. Our knowledge of the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and therapy of urinary tract infections has expanded considerably since the publication of the original Cumitech on this topic in 1975. This update is intended to consolidate this information into a document that will assist both clinicians and clinical microbiologists in the routine diagnosis of bacterial infections of the urinary tract.

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The skin is the most accessible and readily traumatized organ of the body and is therefore the organ at most risk of infection. This Cumitech focuses on common infections of the skin and subcutaneous tissues, highlighting the main clinical features, causative organisms, and laboratory diagnostic procedures for each infection. Systemic skin diseases or those with a noncutaneous primary focus, as well as toxin- and parasite-mediated and ophthalmic and genital infections, are excluded. Included are superficial erythematous infections, ulcers and nodules, sinus tract infections, burns, simple postoperative wounds, complicated wound infections, and bites.

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Symptoms, diagnosis & treatment of urinary tract infection. Urinary tract infections can be painful and annoying, but usually clear up with a course of antibiotics. If untreated, urinary tract infections can lead to kidney infection, so it’s important to visit your doctor for early treatment. The urinary system is your body’s drainage system for removing wastes and extra water. The urinary system includes two kidneys, two ureters, a bladder, and a urethra. Urinary tract infections are the second most common type of infection in the body. Urinary tract infections don’t always cause signs and symptoms, but when they do you may notice: Pain or burning when urine is passed. Follow these tips: Drink plenty of water. Takhar SS, et al. Diagnosis and management of urinary tract infection in the emergency department and outpatient settings. Infectious Disease Clinics of North America. 2014;28:33.