

# Bacteriuria/Catheter Associated UTI

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# Objectives

- Learn to differentiate asymptomatic bacteriuria from UTI.
- Learn to correctly utilize urinalysis results
- Understand the evidence supporting withholding antibiotics for asymptomatic bacteriuria.
- Gain an understanding of the scope of the problem of overtreatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria.

# Thanks for the Honesty

“He seemed like an arrogant  
curmudgeon”



# Case 1

75 yo female in the ER with DM

- Weakness
- SOB
- No urinary symptoms

WBC 14000

Afebrile

UA: +LE, +nitrites, full field WBC, bacteria

# Treat or Not

- UTI – Treat
- Asymptomatic bacteriuria vs. UTI – Treat
- Asymptomatic bacteriuria – Don't treat

# Don't Treat

75 yo female in the ER with DM

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# Definitions

- Asymptomatic bacteriuria
- Lower UTI
- Pyelonephritis

# Asymptomatic Bacteriuria

- No Symptoms
- $>10^5$  bacteriuria (x2)



# Lower Urinary Tract Infection

- **Symptoms**

- dysuria

- frequency

- urgency

- suprapubic pain/tenderness

- gross hematuria

- $>10^2$  CFU bacteria

**Nonspecific symptoms  
don't count**

# Upper Urinary Tract Infection

- **Symptoms**

Symptoms less specific

- Fever
- CVA pain and tenderness
- Nausea/vomiting
- **May or may not have lower UTI findings**

- $> 10^2$  CFU bacteriuria

# Does UA Differentiate ASB and UTI?

- Leukocyte Esterase
- Nitrite
- Pyuria
- Bacteriuria

# What We Think We know

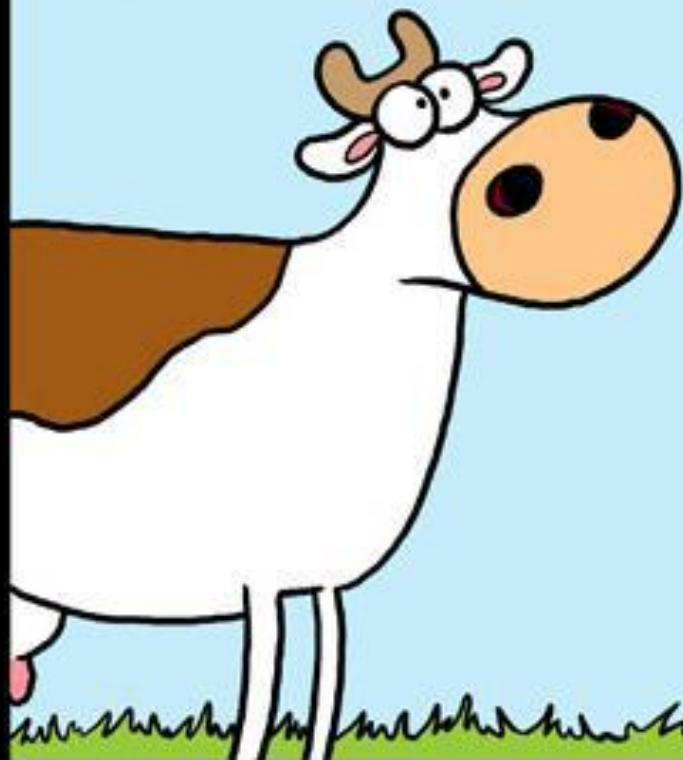
“Normal urine is sterile”

## Prevalence of asymptomatic bacteriuria in selected populations.

Population	Prevalence, %	Reference
Healthy, premenopausal women	1.0–5.0	[31]
Pregnant women	1.9–9.5	[31]
Postmenopausal women aged 50–70 years	2.8–8.6	[31]
Diabetic patients		
Women	9.0–27	[32]
Men	0.7–11	[32]
Elderly persons in the community <sup>a</sup>		
Women	10.8–16	[31]
Men	3.6–19	[31]
Elderly persons in a long-term care facility		
Women	25–50	[27]
Men	15–40	[27]
Patients with spinal cord injuries		
Intermittent catheter use	23–89	[33]
Sphincterotomy and condom catheter in place	57	[34]
Patients undergoing hemodialysis	28	[28]
Patients with indwelling catheter use		
Short-term	9–23	[35]
Long-term	100	[22]

<sup>a</sup> Age,  $\geq 70$  years.

Define  
"normal"!



# Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Always Treat

- Pregnancy
  - RR of pyelonephritis 0.25 with treatment of ASB vs. placebo
- Before urologic surgeries
  - Up to 60% of ASB patient will develop bacteremia with bladder manipulation
  - RCT evidence for decrease in bacteremia

# Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Maybe Treat

- After removal of urinary catheter
  - Higher incidence of development of symptomatic UTI in untreated patient.
  - 2013 meta analysis of prophylaxis after removal
    - Symptomatic UTI 4.7% treated vs 10.5% not treated
      - NNT 17
- Immunocompromised patients



# ASB Don't Treat

- 2015 meta analysis of studies of abx vs placebo for ASB
  - 9 studies
  - Ambulatory, institutions, inpatient
  - No difference
    - symptomatic UTI
    - complications
    - death
  - RRR of any adverse event: 3.77

# Put Down the Prescription Pad and Walk Away!

- Diabetics
  - RCT with 50 placebo, 55 treatment
  - At 4 weeks, 78% placebo had bacteriuria vs 20 percent treated
  - Long term no difference
    - symptomatic UTI
    - pyelonephritis
    - hospitalization
  - 18% treated vs 6% untreated had medication adverse event

# I Really Mean It – Don't Do It!

- Institutionalized patients
  - Patients with ASB randomized to antibiotic or placebo
  - No difference in GU morbidity
  - No UTI deaths at one year in either group
  - Side effects in 40% of treatment group
    - rashes
    - candida infections
    - diarrhea
    - swollen mouth

# I Really Mean It – Don't Do It!

- Institutionalized patients
  - 9 Year observational study obtained UA of elderly institutionalized women every 6 months
    - No difference in mortality between ASB and not
  - 5 years of the study, RCT of antibiotics vs placebo
    - No difference in mortality

# What to Say to the Orthoped

- Before knee or hip replacement
  - Prospective cohort study
  - 2497 THA and TKA screened for ASB
  - 12.1% had ASB
  - 50% treated – individual judgment of provider
  - Overall 4.3% of ASB got joint infection vs 1.4%
  - No difference in infection risk between treated and untreated patients
  - No correlation between joint and urine organism

# High Risk Premenopausal Women With Recurrent UTI

- Community
  - 673 Patients with recurrent UTI screened for ASB
  - Randomized to antibiotics or placebo
  - At 12 months 13% untreated vs 47% treated got symptomatic UTI ( $P < .001$ )
  - NNH 3

# High Risk Premenopausal Women With Recurrent UTI

- 3 year follow up study
  - 37.7% of untreated group got symptomatic UTI vs 69.6% treated group
  - E coli culture results from symptomatic UTI:

<b>Antibiotic</b>	<b>Untreated resistant</b>	<b>Treated Resistant %</b>
Amox/clav	3.8%	24.7%
TMP/sulfa	11.5%	34.4%
Ciprofloxacin	19.2%	44.0%



FIRST DO NO HARM



# Catheter Associated UTI

- Never event in hospitals
- Financial penalties
- Overdiagnosed

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# Catheter Associated UTI

- Symptoms
  - Fever, rigors
  - Pelvic Discomfort
  - CVA pain or tenderness
  - Mental status changes
  - Malaise/lethargy
- Bacteriuria, pyuria

# Why Not Treat

- 60 ICU patients with CAASB randomized to change of catheter and antibiotics or none
- 3 patients in each group developed urosepsis
- No difference in other clinical outcomes
- No difference of bacteriuria rates at 7 and 15 days.

# Don't Treat Asymptomatic Bacteriuria – But...

What is a symptom:

- Delirium?
- Dizziness?
- Fatigue?
- Malaise?

# Delirium – What We Think We Know

- Urinary tract infections are a common cause of delirium in older adults.
- Not treating a delirious adult with bacteriuria leads to bad outcomes.
- Treating delirium in older adults improves delirium faster than not treating.

# Delirium – What We Do Know

- Patients with delirium are more likely to have bacteriuria
- Patients with bacteriuria are more likely to be delirious.
  - 38% of hospitalized patients with bacteriuria delirious vs. 8% without bacteriuria delirious
- Delirious patients more volume depleted, incontinent, comorbid

# EBM v Clinical Practice



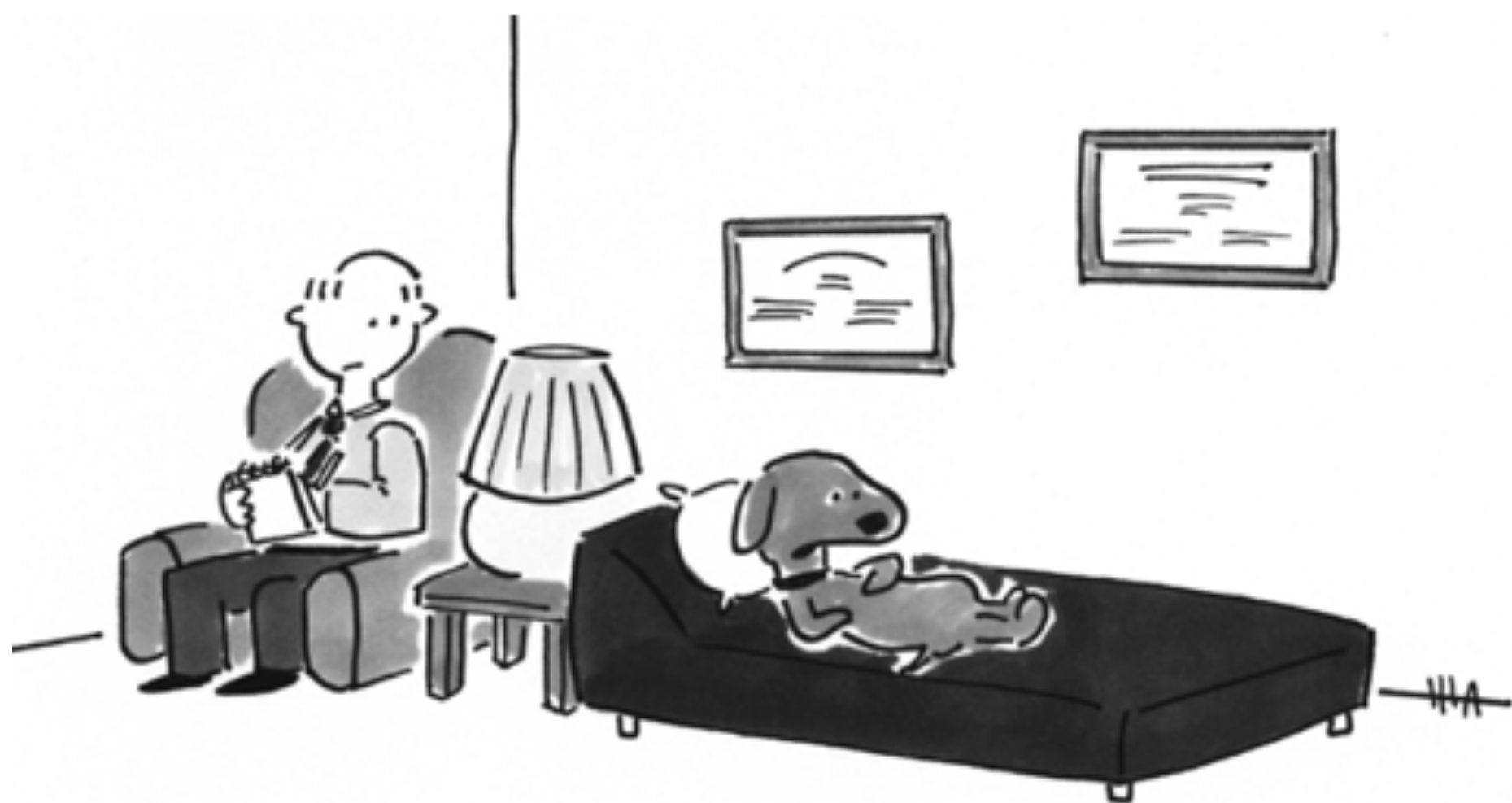


# Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Reality

- Community teaching hospital 47% of inpatient ASB treated
- VA medical center 32% CAASB treated
- Acute care teaching hospital 48% ASB and 42% CAASB treated
- Ottawa teaching hospital prospective study found 72% CAASB treated

# Asymptomatic Bacteriuria Reality

- 43% of elderly women discharged from the ER with UTI had a negative culture.
- 41% of nursing home patients not meeting UTI criteria were treated with an 8.5 fold increase in C dif risk.



"I dunno, maybe deep down I *want* to bark up the wrong tree."

# Conclusions

- Pyuria and bacteriuria are frequently a normal finding
- Treating ASB not helpful, can be harmful
- 30-70% of inpatient and institutional asymptomatic bacteriuria is inappropriately treated.
- Be judicious in the use of antibiotics in the delirious elderly patient with bacteriuria.

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