Clinical Scenario #1

- 23 y.o woman presents to her doctor complaining of 1 day of increased urinary frequency, dysuria and sensation of incomplete voiding
- She is otherwise healthy, takes no medications, and is sexually active, using spermicide-coated condoms for contraception. She says she does not have fever, chills, vaginal discharge, or flank pain
- Sexually active with one partner, no hx/o sexually transmitted diseases

Clinical Scenario #1 : Labs

- Urinalysis: pyuria (WBC too numerous to count), RBC and bacteria present
- Urine dipstick: positive leukocyte esterase and nitrite
- Urine culture: not done
- Patient receives 3 days of TMP/SMX for UTI

Gram stain of urine shows numerous Gram-negative rods. E.coli grew from this urine specimen

Clinical Scenario #1

- She looks a little uncomfortable but is afebrile, with a normal blood pressure
- Her abdominal exam is notable for mild suprapubic tenderness, no RUQ tenderness, no costovertebral tenderness
- Pelvic exam is deferred

Urinary Tract Infections

- Definitions
- Clinical Symptoms and Diagnosis
- Microbiology and Epidemiology
- Pathogenesis
  - Host Factors
  - Bacterial Factors
- Clinical Scenario
- Treatment and Prevention
UTI: Definitions

- **Lower UTI**
  - cystitis, urethritis, prostatitis

- **Upper UTI**
  - pyelonephritis, intra-renal abscess
  - peri-nephric abscess (usually late complications of pyelonephritis)

- **Uncomplicated UTI**
  - Infection in a structurally and neurologically normal urinary tract
  - Simple cystitis of short (1-5 day) duration

- **Complicated UTI**
  - Infection in a urinary tract with functional or structural abnormalities (e.g. indwelling catheters and renal calculi)
  - Cystitis of long duration or hemorrhagic cystitis.

Diagnosis of UTI

- U/A microscopic examination
  - WBC, RBC
  - Presence of bacteria

- Urine dipstick test: rapid screening test
  - Leukocyte esterase test
  - Nitrate → nitrite test (+ in only 25%)

- Indications for urine culture
  - Pyelonephritis
  - Children, pregnant women
  - Patients with structural abnormalities of the urinary tract

Clinical Symptoms and Presentation in Adults

- **Lower tract: Cystitis**
  - Dysuria, urinary urgency and frequency, bladder fullness/discomfort
  - Hemorrhagic cystitis (bloody urine) reported in as many as 10% of cases of UTI in otherwise healthy women

- **Upper tract: Pyelonephritis**
  - Fever, sweating
  - Nausea, vomiting, flank pain, dysuria
  - Signs and symptoms of dehydration, hypotension

- A history of vaginal discharge suggests that vaginitis, cervicitis, or pelvic inflammatory disease is responsible for symptoms of dysuria (pelvic examination)
  - Important additional information includes a history of prior sexually transmitted disease (STD) and multiple current sexual partners.

Indications for Evaluating the Urinary Tract

- **Children**
  - Ultrasound, IVP, CT scan

- **Bacteremic pyelonephritis not responding to therapy**
  - Ultrasound, IVP, CT scan

- **Nephrolithiasis or Neurogenic Bladder**
  - Ultrasound, CT, or IVP with post-voiding films

- **Men with 1st or 2nd infection**
  - Careful prostate examination
  - Ultrasound or IVP with post-voiding films

UTI in Children

- Younger than 2 years - enuresis, fever, poor weight gain
- Older than 3 years - dysuria, lower abdominal pain

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Etiology of Uncomplicated UTI in Sexually Active Women

- E. coli 79%
- S. saprophyticus 11%
- Klebsiella 3%
- Mixed 3%
- Proteus 2%
- Enterococcus 2%
- Other 2%

Microbial Species Most Often Associated with Specific Types of UTI’s

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organism</th>
<th>Acute uncomplicated cystitis</th>
<th>Acute uncomplicated pyelonephritis</th>
<th>Complicated UTI</th>
<th>Catheter-associated UTI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. coli</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. saprophyticus</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. mirabilis</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Klebsiella spp.</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterococcus spp.</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. aeruginosa</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other*</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Candida spp.</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. epidermidis</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Serratia, Providencia, Enterobacter, Acinetobacter, Citrobacter

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Pathogenesis of UTI

- Hematogenous Route
- Ascending Route
  - Colonization of the vaginal introitus
  - Colonization of the urethra
  - Entry into the bladder
  - Infection

UTI: Epidemiology and Risk Factors by Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age in years</th>
<th>Females (% Prevalence)</th>
<th>Males (% Prevalence)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 1</td>
<td>Anatomic/functional abnormalities (1%)</td>
<td>Anatomic/functional abnormalities (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-5</td>
<td>Congenital abnormalities, Vescouretreal reflux (4.5%)</td>
<td>Congenital abnormalities, uncircumcised penis (0.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-15</td>
<td>Vescouretreal reflux (4.5%)</td>
<td>Vescouretreal reflux (0.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-35</td>
<td>Sexual intercourse, spermicide use, previous UTI (20%)</td>
<td>Anatomic, insertive anal intercourse (0.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-65</td>
<td>Gynecologic surgery, bladder prolapse (35%)</td>
<td>Prostate hypertrophy, obstruction, catheterization (20%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;65</td>
<td>Estrogen deficiency and loss of lactobacilli (40%)</td>
<td>All of the above; urinary tract infections (35%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UTI in Women: Factors Predisposing to Infection

- Short urethra
- Sexual intercourse & lack of post coital voiding
- Diaphragm, spermicide use
- Estrogen deficiency
- $P_1$ blood group - upper UTI

Host Factors Predisposing to Infection

- Extra-renal obstruction
  - Posterior urethral valves
  - Urethral strictures
- Renal calculi
- Incomplete bladder emptying
- Neurogenic bladder
- Immunocompromised individuals (e.g. DM, transplant recipients)

Bacterial Virulence Factors-I

- Enhanced adherence to receptors on uroepithelial cells
  - **Type 1 fimbriae**: mediate binding to uroplakins, mannosylated glycoproteins on the surface of bladder uroepithelial cells
  - **P fimbriae**: bind to galactose disaccharide on the surface of uroepithelial cells and to $P_1$ blood group antigen (D-galactose-D-galactose residue) on RBCs
    - 97% of women with recurrent pyelonephritis are $P_1$ blood group (+)
    - Higher prevalence of P-fimbriated E.coli in cystitis-causing strains than in strains from asymptomatic persons (60% vs. 10%)
- Phase variation:
  - Type 1 fimbriae increase susceptibility to phagocytosis, P-fimbriae block phagocytosis
  - In strains that cause upper-tract infections: Type 1 down-regulated, Type P upregulated (PAP gene expression triggered by temperature, [glucose], concentration of certain amino acids)

Bacterial Virulence Factors-II

- Flagella- enhanced motility
- Production of hemolysin ‒ induces pore formation in cell membrane ‒ cell lysis (nutrient release)
- Production of aerobactin (a siderophore) ‒ iron acquisition in the iron-poor environment of the urinary tract
Clinical Scenario #2

- 43 y.o woman with DM presents to the ER complaining of chills, nausea and low back pain for the past 2 days. Earlier in the week she developed increased urinary frequency and dysuria.
- Recognizing the symptoms of UTI she took two days of TMP/SMX but was unable to finish treatment because of nausea and vomiting.
- Past medical history is notable for frequent UTIs treated with TMP/SMX and a history of Diabetes Mellitus.
- No hx/o STDs, no vaginal discharge.

Clinical Scenario #2

- She looks unwell and appears uncomfortable.
- She is febrile to 101.2, tachycardic to 100 with a BP 100/60.
- On exam her mucous membranes are dry; there is suprapubic tenderness, and severe right flank and right costovertebral tenderness.
- Urinalysis, Urine microscopic examination and urine culture are performed: pyuria, hematuria, bacteriuria.
- Blood cultures are drawn.
- Patient is admitted to the hospital for IV antibiotics and pain management.

Clinical Scenario #2

- The next day, urine and blood cultures show Gram-negative rods.
- After 72 hours of hydration and intravenous antibiotics, your patient is still febrile and repeat urine examination is still notable for pyuria and bacteriuria.
- You are concerned about:
  - urinary obstruction
  - intrarenal/perinephric abscess
  - infection with resistant organism.
Clinical Scenario #2

- Microbiology lab informs you that the pathogen is an *E. coli* sensitive to fluoroquinolones, resistant to TMP/SMX
- Renal CT is notable for a large renal abscess
- **Diagnosis:** pyelonephritis complicated by a renal abscess in a diabetic patient

UTI: Upper Tract Disease

- Symptoms suggestive of upper tract disease (pyelonephritis):
  - Fever (usually greater than 101°F),
  - Nausea, vomiting, and
  - Pain in the costovertebral areas
  - Urinary frequency, urgency and dysuria
  - Renal abscess: patients with urinary tract abnormalities, diabetic patients
- Evaluation: urine culture, +/- blood cultures,
  - Imaging if no improvement
- Microbiology: *E. coli*, and *Citrobacter, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Enterococi, Staphylococcus spp.*
- Initial therapy: intravenous antibiotics for 10-14 days (perinephric abscess treat longer, +/- drainage)
Treatment: General Principles

- Recurrent infections common in young women (20% by 6 months).
  - Majority are exogenous infections rather than failure to cure initial infection
- Duration of therapy depends on the site and duration of the infection.

Empirc Antimicrobials

- Choice of antimicrobial agents
  - Primary excretion routes through the urinary tract
  - Achieve high concentration in urine and vaginal secretions
  - Inhibit E. coli, the primary pathogen in cystitis
- Short course (3-day) therapy for uncomplicated infections
- Longer duration (10-14 days) for complicated infection (e.g. pyelonephritis)
- Oral vs. intravenous agents (TMP/SMX, Fluoroquinolones)

Cohen & Powderly: Infectious Diseases, 2nd ed., 2004

Treatment of Asymptomatic Bacteriuria

- Pregnant women
- Patients with neurological or structural abnormality of the urinary tract
- Patients undergoing urologic surgery
Recurrent UTI

- Risk factors for recurrent uncomplicated UTI
  - Postmenopausal status; diabetes
  - Recent antimicrobial use
  - Behavioral risk factors
    - Frequency of sexual intercourse
    - Spermicide use, oral contraceptive use
    - New partner
    - First UTI <15 y.o.

Prevention Strategies

- Prevention Strategies
  - Alternative methods of contraception (avoid spermicide, diaphragms)
  - Postcoital voiding and increased fluid intake
  - Cranberry juice (sexually active women with previous UTI)
  - Antibiotic prophylaxis
    - >2 symptomatic UTIs within six months or >3 over 12 months
    - Postcoital prophylaxis vs. continuous prophylaxis vs. self-treatment

Antimicrobial Resistance

- Reports of increased resistance to TMP/SMX
- Regional variation
- Rates between 18-40%

Selected References

- Raz R., Chazan B., Dan M., Cranberry juice and urinary tract infection. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 2004; 38:1413-9