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URINARY TRACT INFECTION

A UTI is an infection of the kidneys, ureter, bladder, or urethra. It is caused by bacteria. People who have any problems with the urinary tract (such as urethral valves or any type of obstruction) are more at risk of developing a UTI. A urinalysis can show if there is bacteria or white blood cells (infection fighting cells) in the urine, which can suggest a UTI. The urine will also be sent for a culture. Depending on your child's age and symptoms, additional tests may be ordered to evaluate your child's risk of having further UTIs or to check for any involvement of the kidneys.

Symptoms can include:

Painful urination	Fever
Back or stomach pains	Vomiting
Frequent urination	Urinating small amounts each time
Foul smelling urine	Blood in the urine

How is a UTI treated?

- Your doctor may prescribe an antibiotic right after the urinalysis results are back, or may wait until the urine culture is done.
- If your doctor prescribes antibiotics, you need to give the medicine to your child as directed by your doctor, for the entire time prescribed.
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin / Advil) for fever or pain as directed by your doctor.
- Have your child drink lots of liquids daily, especially water. This will help to make sure that your child has good urine output.
- Your child may be more comfortable urinating in a tub of warm water.
- Avoid taking bubble baths.

Call our office if:

- Your child is not getting better after 48 hours of antibiotics.
- You are concerned that your child is getting dehydrated (for example, dry lips or mouth, no tears when crying, less urine output).
- Your child develops high fever or increased vomiting, or is complaining of worsening stomach, back or side pains.
- Your child develops swelling of the eyes or the legs.

For any urgent or emergent medical concerns, please call 911 or go immediately to the nearest emergency department.