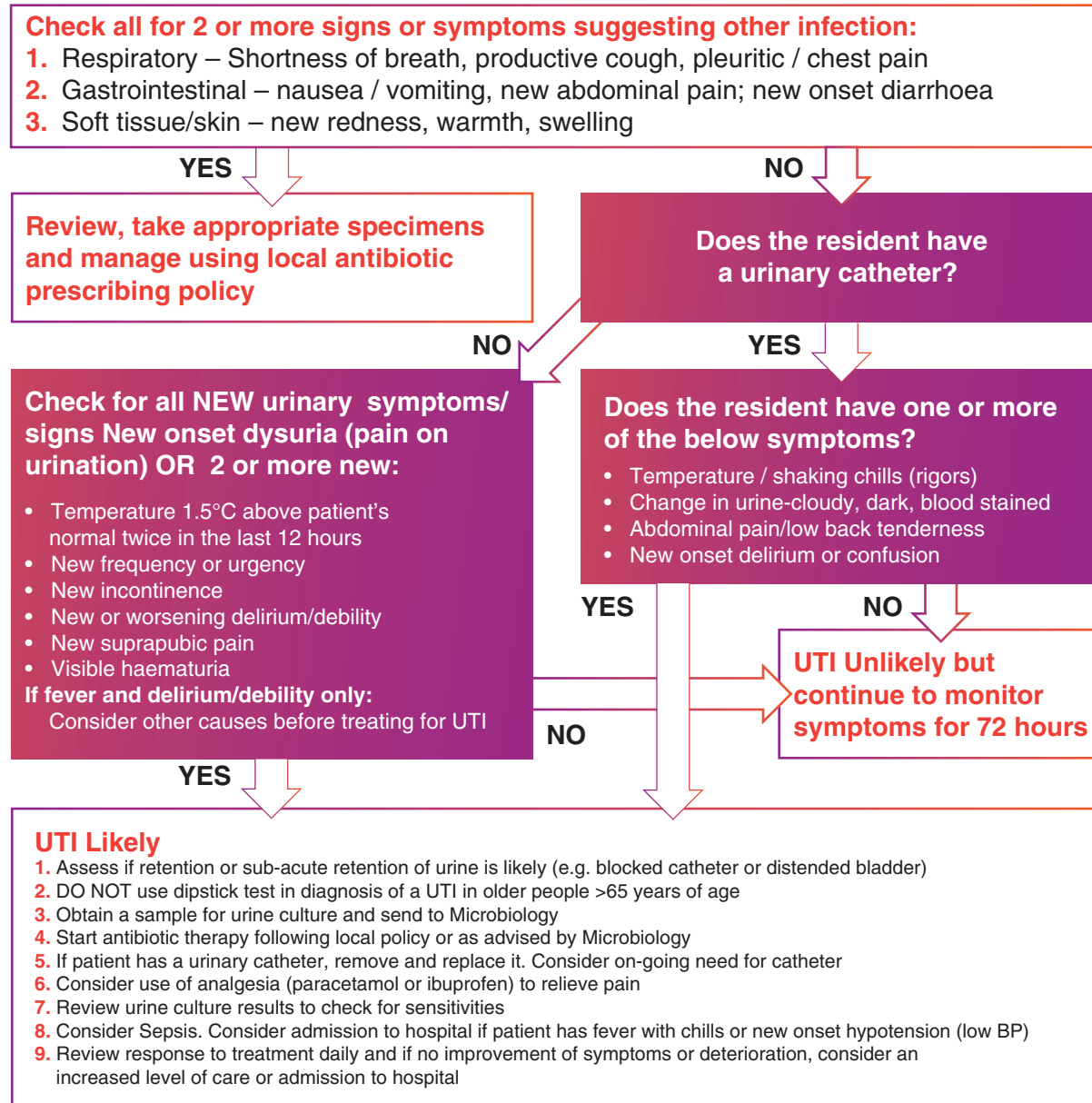


# Diagnosis and Management of Suspected Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) in Care Homes

## Decision Support Tool

To guide management of residents with fever (temperature  $>37.9^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  above baseline) occurring on at least 2 occasions in last 12 hours. Hypothermia ( $<36^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) can also indicate infection. Be aware of other non-specific signs of infection such as increased confusion, loss of diabetes control.



## Public Health England & NICE Treatment guidance

[www.gov.uk/government/publications/urinary-tract-infection-diagnosis](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/urinary-tract-infection-diagnosis)  
[www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng109](http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng109)

## Good Practice Points

### Men and Women $>65$ Years Old

- Do NOT perform urine dipsticks in elderly ( $>65$  years) as this becomes increasingly unreliable with increasing age.
- Send urine for culture if symptomatic and antibiotics given.
- Do not treat asymptomatic bacteriuria in the elderly
- Review urine culture to check sensitivities to antibiotics, suspected pyelonephritis or sepsis, suspected UTI in men failed treatment/ persistent symptoms recurrent UTI (2 in 6 Months or 3 in 12 Months)
- Do not send urine samples for clearance checks

### Men and Women with Catheters

- Do not treat asymptomatic bacteriuria in those with indwelling catheters, as bacteriuria is very common and antibiotics increase side effects and antibiotic resistance.
- Only send urine for culture in catheterised persons if features of systemic infection. However, always:
  - i. Exclude other sources of infection.
  - ii. Check that the catheter is draining and is not blocked.
  - iii. Consider need for continued catheterisation.
- If the catheter has been in place for more than 7 days, consider changing it before or when starting antibiotics.
- Review urine culture to check sensitivities to antibiotics
- Do not give antibiotic prophylaxis for catheter changes unless history of symptomatic UTIs due to catheter change.