



## Has your patient got signs and symptoms of a urinary tract infection (UTI)?

**Diagnosis of a UTI must always involve assessing for clinical signs and symptoms of a UTI. Signs and symptoms include:**

- Fever
- Rigors, shivering, shaking
- New onset or worsening confusion / delirium
- Malaise /lethargy with no other identified cause
- Back pain
- Pelvic discomfort/pain
- Acute haematuria



**NEVER undertake urinalysis on a urine sample from an indwelling catheter** (24 hours after catheter insertion, urine will be colonised with micro-organisms, and all CSUs will test positive for nitrites)



### When to take a catheter specimen of urine (CSU)

- A CSU should only be obtained when a diagnosis of CAUTI has been made based on clinical signs and symptoms
- Obtain the CSU before the patient commences antibiotics
- The CSU will help guide antimicrobial treatment but does not help in establishing the diagnosis
- Obtaining a CSU when there is no clinical evidence of a CAUTI may lead to a false positive result and unnecessary treatment with antibiotics
- Aseptic technique
- Complete the Lab form and give specific details and the reason for specimen.

### How to obtain a CSU:

- Obtain the specimen aseptically via the drainage bag needle free sampling port
- Clean the sampling port with a 70% isopropyl alcohol swab and allow to dry
- CSUs may also be obtained aseptically during catheterisation
- The sample should normally be sent in a red-topped (boric acid containing) sterile container and filled to the line
- A false negative culture result can occur with a small urine volume

