Pediatric Urinary Tract Infection

Your child has a urinary tract infection. This is rare in children compared to adults. When children get a urinary infection, it is important to find the cause. A urine culture test is often done to determine the type of bacteria responsible for the infection. About half the time the medical evaluation is able to identify the cause of the infection.

- Antibiotic medicines are usually prescribed. These usually relieve symptoms after 2-3 days. The following measures are also important to help your child clear the infection:
- Give the medicine on time as prescribed. Continue treatment until all the medicine is gone even after the symptoms clear up.
- Have your child get plenty of rest and encourage fluids to avoid dehydration (6-8 glasses per day for most older children).
- Always clean or teach your child to wipe from front to back. This helps prevent soiling of the bladder opening with germs.
- Encourage your child to empty their bladder frequently. Use cotton underwear.
- Sitting in a warm water bath for 15 minutes 3-4 times daily may help relieve pain along with urinating in the bath water. Do not put bubble bath, shampoos or soaps in bath water as this increases the risk of getting a urinary infection.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF YOUR CHILD'S SYMPTOMS:

- Get worse, if they have a high fever for more than 1-2 days or if they vomit a lot or get dehydrated.

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