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Beyond the cloudiness in urinary tract infection: definitions, diagnostics, and strategies for prevention

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift getiteld

Beyond the cloudiness in urinary tract infection: definitions, diagnostics, and strategies for prevention

1. The heterogeneity of study definitions for urinary tract infection (UTI) hampers the interpretation of study results and comparability between studies and calls for the implementation of a reference standard. (this thesis)
2. A reference standard for urinary tract infection research should align with clinical UTI phenotypes. (this thesis)
3. The term ‘complicated UTI’ should be abandoned. (this thesis)
4. Higher pyuria cut-offs should be used to prevent misclassification of asymptomatic bacteriuria (ASB) as UTI in older women. (this thesis)
5. The urine biomarkers IL-6, azurocidin, NGAL, TIMP-2 and CXCL-9 exhibit high diagnostic accuracy for UTI in older women and when combined may have additional value on top of pyuria to discriminate UTI from ASB. (this thesis)
6. Intravesical aminoglycoside instillations are safe and effective for UTI prophylaxis in a population with a high recurrence rate. (this thesis)
7. Antimicrobial stewardship begins with diagnostic stewardship. (based on Morgan et al. JAMA 2017 Aug 15;318(7):607-608)
8. Gut-sparing prophylactic and therapeutic options should be considered in patients with recurrent UTI, as gut dysbiosis and carriage of antimicrobial resistance genes influence future UTI susceptibility and treatment. (based on Worby et al. Nat Microbiol 2022; 7(5): 630-9)
9. Time is often a better diagnostician than the best physician.
10. Clinicians should more frequently acknowledge when the source of an infection is unknown, rather than using UTI as a convenient but inaccurate surrogate for the true diagnosis.
11. The saying “La médecine, c’est guérir parfois, soulager souvent, consoler toujours.” is applicable to patients suffering from recurrent UTI – source unknown
12. “The greater the ignorance the greater the dogmatism” holds true both within academia and in broader contexts of human discourse – based on Sir William Osler