RISK FACTORS FOR NON-CATHETER RELATED UTIS

RISK FACTOR	MANIFESTATION	INTERVENTIONS
Elderly female	Aging changes: Decreased amounts of Estrogen- causing change in pH of vaginal flora, reducing vascularity, and atrophy of mucosa creating environment for bacteria colonization Reduced bladder elasticity, muscle tone, capacity Decreased or delayed perception of voiding signal	 Educate patient and caregivers of normal aging changes and impact on urinary status Goal is prevention of UTIs
Incontinence	 Bladder may not be completely emptied, creating environment for bacteria growth Urine not removed from perineum, susceptible for bacteria growth 	 Timed voiding trial If using protective underwear, teach re: frequent change when wet, and performing skin care with each change Eval for WOCN consult
Inability to maintain perineal hygiene	UTIs related to E. coli bacteria from rectum due to this bacteria entering urethra	Evaluate ability to perform adequate personal careConsider referral for HHA, OT eval
Constipation	 Severe constipation with stool in the colon can obstruct outflow from the urinary tract Indicative of dehydration 	Establish bowel regimen
Dehydration	 Factor in constipation Limits urine production, creates concentrated urine, which promotes bacterial growth 	Encourage fluids, although there may be patient reluctance due to need to increase bathroom trips
Diagnosis of Diabetes	High glucose urine content and defective immune system are factors. Vaginal candidiasis and vascular disease play a role in recurrent infections	 Educate patient that DM is a factor in developing UTIs Maintain glucose control Promote daily perineal hygiene and toilet hygiene
Decreased Mobility/Immobility	 Impacts ability to self toilet Factor for incontinence May interfere with adequate perineal hygiene 	 Observe patient ambulating to bathroom/commode Consider PT eval for strengthening/safety Consider OT eval for personal care needs May require bedside commode, raised toilet seat etc.
Inability to recognize symptoms of UTI	 Patient may not present with fever Due to use of daily analgesics may not experience dysuria Due to use of diuretics may not identify frequency as a new symptom May present with generalized symptoms, "feeling out of sorts". 	 Recognize that mental status changes may be a reliable indicator of a UTI Obtain urine sample for UA and C&S

Sources:

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