



Antibiotics Aren't Always the Answer

Many older women naturally have a large amount of bacteria in their urine, without any signs of infection. How can you help your family member stay safe and free from harmful and unnecessary medications?

- Asymptomatic bacteriuria means you have bacteria in your urine.
- Bacteria in the urine do not cause confusion, falls or weakness.
- This condition is more common in women after menopause when lack of estrogen causes a loss in protective bacteria.
- Antibiotics are often not necessary.
- Your family member might not need antibiotics and they can pose significant risk when used for asymptomatic bacteriuria.
- It's not unusual for seniors to be prescribed antibiotics when they don't need them to treat this condition.
- It's often confused with a urinary tract infection (UTI).
- We recommend an alternative preventive strategy to address ASB.

No symptoms. No infection. No need for antibiotics.

