

# Know When to Test Residents for Urinary Tract Infections!

Follow the Recommendations to Determine “When” and “When Not” to Test Older Adults for UTI\*:

## Does the Resident have a Urinary Catheter?

### NO

#### Test

*When a Resident Has:*

- ☐ Burning or pain with urination
  - ☐ Fever
- OR**

#### AND

#### At Least One of the Following:

- ☐ New blood in urine
- ☐ New or increasing urinary urgency or frequency
- ☐ Pain or tenderness in the lower abdomen or flank

#### Do NOT Test

- ☐ When a resident has foul-smelling or cloudy urine with no other urinary symptoms
- ☐ When a resident has mental status changes without urinary symptoms
- ☐ Routinely after admission

### YES

#### Test

*When a Resident Has:*

#### **One of the Following Without Another Known Cause**

- ☐ Fever
- ☐ Pain or tenderness in the lower abdomen or flank
- ☐ Rigors (shivering and chills)
- ☐ New delirium (after adequate workup for other causes of delirium)

#### Do NOT Test

- ☐ When a resident has foul-smelling or cloudy urine with no other urinary symptoms
- ☐ Routinely after admission
- ☐ Routinely after urethral catheter change

## Why is Testing for UTIs Important?

*Performing urinalysis, or urine cultures, for asymptomatic patients may lead to unnecessarily prescribing antibiotics.*

*Antibiotics can have serious side effects, so it is important to use them only when needed.*