

No benefit from treating asymptomatic bacteriuria**Clinical Question**

How effective is antibiotic treatment for asymptomatic bacteriuria?

Bottom Line

There were no differences between antibiotic treatment versus no treatment for the development of symptomatic urinary tract infection, complications, mortality or decline in renal function. Antibiotics were superior to no treatment for bacteriological cure but with significantly more adverse events.

Caveat

The studies were of medium and high quality, used different treatments for different durations of treatment and follow-up, and different populations. Minimal data were available on the emergence of resistant strains after antimicrobial treatment.

Context

Asymptomatic bacteriuria is commonly detected in women aged up to 60 years, patients with diabetes, and the elderly. The benefit of antibiotic treatment is controversial.

Cochrane Systematic Review

[Trestioreanu AZ et al. Antibiotics for asymptomatic bacteriuria. Cochrane Reviews, 2015, Issue 4. Art. No.: CD009534.DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD009534.pub2.](#) This review contains nine studies involving 1,614 participants.

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