

# UTI Fast Facts

Urinary tract infection (UTI) is one of the most common human bacterial infections, affecting

**150 million**



people worldwide each year.

Reference 1

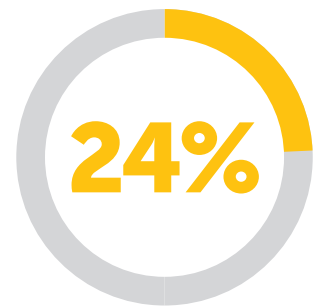
About **250,000** Australians



develop a UTI each year, with UTIs accounting for 1.2% of all problems managed by Australian general practitioners.

Reference 20, 21

Among healthy young women with their first UTI,



will have a recurrence within six months.

If they have a history of one or more UTIs, the risk of recurrence rises to



in the same year.

Reference 3

**50%** of all women



will experience an acute UTI in their lifetime, and a third of these will occur before the age of 24.

Reference 2

In 2015–2016, kidney infections and UTIs accounted for nearly

**11%**



of potentially preventable hospitalisations in Australia.

Reference 22

**Urinary dipsticks**



used by GPs in the clinic as a first-line UTI diagnostic tool, are grossly insensitive and miss up to 70% of urinary infections.

Reference 6, 7, 8

It has been shown that between

**25-35%**



of patients treated according to current UTI guidelines fail treatment (whether prescribed antibiotics for 3 or 14 days).

Reference 4

In Australia, there are currently no guidelines on how to treat the subgroup who fail to respond to treatment.

**There are no existing treatment or diagnostic guidelines for chronic UTI.**

Reference 5



**>50**

peer-reviewed papers since the 1980s highlight serious discrepancies with UTI testing and treatment, but medical authorities consistently ignore the evidence.

Reference 23

Midstream specimen urinary (MSU) cultures, used in clinical laboratories to identify bacteria, are shown through research to miss between



**50-80%** of urinary infections.

Reference 9, 10

## Urine is not sterile.

As recently as 2012, enhanced culture and genomics technology have revealed that even the normal, comparative healthy bladder is not sterile.

The urinary tract houses a genuine, possibly protective, urinary microbiota full of many hundreds of different microbial species, which some describe as a 'poly-microbial soup'.

Reference 16

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