iMedix: Your Personal Health Advisor.

Pyelonephritis

Overwiew

What is it

Understanding Pyelonephritis (Kidney Infections) What is Pyelonephritis? Pyelonephritis is a type of urinary tract infection (UTI) that affects one or both kidneys. It’s often caused by bacteria that enter the urinary tract and travel up to the kidneys. What are the symptoms of Pyelonephritis? Symptoms include fever, chills, back or side pain, nausea, vomiting, frequent urination, burning sensation during urination, and cloudy or foul-smelling urine. How is Pyelonephritis diagnosed? Diagnosis typically involves a medical history review, physical examination, urine tests (like urinalysis and urine culture), and sometimes imaging tests such as a CT scan or ultrasound. What causes Pyelonephritis? It is usually caused by bacteria, commonly E. coli, that enter the urinary tract and travel up to the kidneys. It can also be caused by obstruction in the urinary tract, such as kidney stones, or conditions that hinder the flow of urine. How is Pyelonephritis treated? Treatment usually involves antibiotics to kill the bacteria causing the infection. In severe cases, hospitalization may be required for intravenous antibiotics and fluids. Can Pyelonephritis lead to complications? Yes, if left untreated, pyelonephritis can lead to serious complications, including kidney scarring, sepsis (infection spreading to the bloodstream), and kidney failure. How can Pyelonephritis be prevented? Preventive measures include drinking plenty of fluids, urinating frequently, wiping from front to back after a bowel movement, avoiding bladder irritants like caffeine and alcohol, and practicing safe sex. Symptoms of pyelonephritis may include high fever, back or flank pain, frequent urination, painful urination, cloudy or bloody urine, and fatigue. In severe cases, it can lead to complications like kidney abscess or sepsis. Diagnosis of pyelonephritis often involves urine analysis, blood tests, and imaging studies such as ultrasound or CT scan. Prompt and appropriate treatment is essential to prevent further complications and kidney damage. Treatment for pyelonephritis typically involves antibiotics to eliminate the infection. In severe cases or when complications arise, hospitalization may be required for intravenous antibiotics and supportive care. It is also essential to address any underlying conditions that may contribute to recurrent infections. Shaping Clinical Practices: These medications have significantly shaped clinical practices in their respective fields. Zovirax‘s influence in virology, Daklinza‘s in hepatology, Addyi‘s in sexual medicine, Xyzal‘s in allergy treatment, Amoxil‘s in infectious disease, Propecia‘s in dermatology, Clomid‘s in reproductive medicine, Priligy‘s in sexual health, Eriacta to Caverta‘s in erectile dysfunction treatment, Synthroid‘s in endocrinology, Cipro‘s in antibiotic therapy, Proscar‘s in urology, and Nolvadex‘s in oncology have all contributed to evolving clinical practices. Preventing pyelonephritis involves practicing good hygiene, maintaining proper hydration, emptying the bladder regularly, urinating after sexual intercourse, and avoiding potentially harmful behaviors like holding urine for prolonged periods. Overall, with timely diagnosis and appropriate treatment, the prognosis for pyelonephritis is good. However, recurrent or chronic infections may increase the risk of kidney damage and other complications. Causes of Pyelonephritis Bacterial infection: Pyelonephritis is primarily caused by a bacterial infection, commonly originating from the bladder and ascending through the ureters to the kidneys. E. coli bacteria: The most common bacteria responsible for causing pyelonephritis is Escherichia coli (E. coli), which is found in the gastrointestinal tract and can migrate to the urinary tract. Obstruction of urine flow: Blockage or obstruction in the urinary tract, such as kidney stones or an enlarged prostate, can lead to an increased risk of developing pyelonephritis as urine stagnates and provides a breeding ground for bacterial growth. Urinary tract abnormalities: Structural abnormalities in the urinary tract, such as congenital defects or vesicoureteral reflux, may contribute to

recurring urinary tract infections (UTIs) that can progress to pyelonephritis. Weakened immune system: Individuals with a weakened immune system, such as those with diabetes, HIV/AIDS, or undergoing immunosuppressive therapy, are more susceptible to severe infections, including pyelonephritis. Pyelonephritis Fever Flank pain Back pain Abdominal pain Painful urination Frequent urination Blood in urine Cloudy urine Foul-smelling urine Nausea and vomiting Fatigue