

UTI Signs in Older Adults (Often Missed)



Watch for sudden changes, not just typical symptoms:

- Confusion or sudden change in mental status
- Delirium or increased disorientation
- Agitation or unusual irritability
- Hallucinations
- Increased falls or unsteadiness
- Sudden fatigue or weakness
- Loss of appetite
- New or worsening urinary incontinence
- Frequent urge to urinate
- Pain or burning with urination (may be absent in seniors)
- Lower abdominal discomfort or pressure
- Fever or chills (often mild or absent)
- Strong or foul-smelling urine

Important: In older adults, a UTI may present without classic symptoms like pain or fever. Behavioral or cognitive changes are often the first sign.

When to Act Quickly

Seek medical attention promptly if you notice:

- Rapid or severe confusion
- Extreme drowsiness or difficulty waking
- Signs of dehydration
- Fever with shaking or chills
- Decline happening over hours to a few days

These may be signs the infection is worsening or spreading.

Disclaimer

This information is for educational purposes only and is not intended to replace professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider with any questions or concerns about a medical condition. If you suspect a urinary tract infection or notice sudden changes in an older adult's condition, seek medical care promptly. In case of emergency, call 911 or your local emergency services.