

Natural Help 4...

Bladder Infections



What is a Bladder Infection?

A [bladder infection](#) is also known as cystitis, and is **commonly referred to as a urinary tract infection (UTI)**. When bacteria enters the urinary tract via the urethra, sometimes it moves up into the bladder, where it can multiply and cause an infection.

Although generally very uncomfortable, [treating a bladder infection](#) is not difficult. Most [bladder infections](#) or UTI's are caused by the bacterium Escherichia coli (E.coli).

Types of Bladder Infection

There are two main types of urinary tract infections: lower tract and upper tract infections. An infection found in the lower tract involves the urethra and/or the [bladder. Infection](#) of the urethra (tube that carries urine from the bladder to the outside) is called urethritis, while infection of the bladder is called cystitis. Upper tract infections involve the kidneys and can be caused either by bacteria entering the kidneys from the bloodstream or by bacteria ascending up from the bladder via the ureters to the kidneys. An infection of the kidneys is known as pyelonephritis, and this is a serious medical condition.

Diagnosing a Bladder Infection

The doctor will perform a physical examination, check the patient's medical history, and inquire about symptoms presented. During the physical examination, the doctor may **examine the patient's pelvic area, abdomen and lower back** to determine whether the bladder or kidney is enlarged.

Tests to Diagnose Bladder Infection

- Urine test by using a dipstick in the urine sample
- By urine culture where a specimen is sent to the laboratory to grow and identify the causative bacteria
- Ultrasound scan

Symptoms of Bladder Infections

The signs and [symptoms of bladder infections](#) include:

- Urgent need to urinate
- Frequent urination

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Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this ebook or on ANY website.

- Burning or pain during urination (dysuria)
- Bladder spasms
- Cloudy, bloody, or foul-smelling urine
- Pain in lower back or abdomen
- Pain above the pubic bone
- Shakiness and fatigue
- Mild fever

What Causes a Bladder Infection?

The most common cause of [bladder infections](#) is infection by bacteria which have spread from the rectal area into the urethra. **Approximately eighty percent of bladder infections are caused by Escherichia coli (E.coli).** Other bacteria that may also cause [bladder infection](#) include Staphylococcus saprophyticus, Klebsiella, Enterobacter, and Proteus species.

Contributing Causes of Bladder Infection

- A short urethra makes women more prone to developing infections
- Sexual intercourse
- Use of a diaphragm for birth control
- Inadequate personal hygiene
- Sexually transmitted diseases
- Enlarged prostate in men
- Pregnancy
- Medical conditions such as diabetes or HIV

Help for Bladder Infections

The [symptoms of bladder infections](#) can be alleviated with a number of effective treatment options including **drug therapy, complementary therapy, or natural remedies.** Certain preventative measures can also help to reduce symptoms.

Drug Therapy

- Over-the-counter drugs such as painkillers, anti-inflammatories or antispasmodics are commonly prescribed to relieve pain and discomfort.
- Antibiotics are commonly prescribed to treat the infection.

It is important to note that **treatment of a bladder infection with antibiotics** may contribute to **recurring bladder infections**, and continued antibiotic use **weakens the immune system.** Antibiotic use is also associated with an increased risk of developing thrush and other yeast infections. Pregnant women should consult their doctor or pharmacist before taking any medication.

Natural Remedies

Natural treatments such as herbal and homeopathic remedies can be effective in relieving the pain and discomfort of [bladder infections](#) as well as treating the infection, **without the problems associated with OTC drugs and**

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Michele Carelse, Clinical Psychologist



All of our natural remedies are formulated by our expert team of herbalists, naturopaths and homeopaths, and headed by Michele Carelse.

Michele has had years of experience in the manufacturing and use of natural remedies. In addition, she is a trained Clinical Psychologist and has been incorporating natural remedies into her treatment of patients with depression, anxiety, ADD, ADHD and stress for many years with spectacular results.

antibiotics.

Herbal and homeopathic remedies have been traditionally used for centuries to effectively address both the symptoms of [bladder infections](#) as well as the underlying causes, thereby providing a more holistic and longer-lasting solution. Natural remedies are also safe to use regularly without the harmful side effects of conventional medicine. Using these remedies will not only treat the symptoms successfully, but also enhance your overall health and well-being. A combination of carefully selected herbs such as *Agothosma betulina* (buchu), *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*, *Melissa officinalis* (lemon balm), *Avena sativa*, *Hypericum perforatum* (St. John's Wort), *Vaccinium myrtillus* (billberry) and *Echinacea angustifolia* prevent further infection by providing antibacterial action, supporting the immune system, and creating a urinary tract climate which is not conducive to bacteria. Consult a herbalist or homeopath about a treatment most suited to your symptoms.

Complementary therapy can offer a holistic and effective approach to treating a [bladder infection](#) and prevention and can include:

- Acupuncture
- Naturopathy
- Nutritional therapies
- Pelvic floor treatments (to strengthen the pelvic floor muscles)
- Massage
- Biofeedback

Use these therapies as part of your broader treatment plan to reduce discomfort, pain and to strengthen the urinary tract system.

Tips to Help Prevent Bladder Infection

- Drink plenty of water, at least eight glasses a day, to flush out your system
- Do not resist the urge to urinate
- When visiting the bathroom, women should wipe from front to back after urinating
- Avoid using products that may irritate the genital area such as scented soap, bubble bath, talc or spray
- Wear cotton instead of nylon underwear
- Avoid wearing tight jeans or trousers and wet swimsuits
- Wash before and after sexual intercourse
- Change tampons and sanitary towels frequently when menstruating
- Drink lots of pure cranberry juice
- Avoid excessive caffeine and sugar in the diet

The Natural Approach

While Western medicine has become the norm in many cultures, it is not the only treatment option. Conventional western medicine, often called allopathic medicine, is the system of medicine taught at most medical schools and most pharmaceutical and synthetic medicines are manufactured and marketed according to the principles of allopathic medicine. Allopathic medicine is also sometimes called orthodox medicine.

Because most of us in the Western world have grown up in a society in which

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allopathic medicine is the prevailing norm, we forget that, only a few decades ago, homeopathic, herbal and other natural medicines were commonly available – and freely used even by conventional doctors. While there are often heated debates about which system of medicine is ‘better’ than the other, many responsible doctors (whether they are allopathic or not) recognize that both have a role to play in the treatment program.

Natural medicine has often been frowned on by conventional doctors, especially by those who did not have sufficient knowledge of these medicines. However, it is encouraging to note that some medical schools are now beginning to re-introduce it into their course work, thereby providing doctors with a wider range of treatment options from which to choose. In many countries, especially in Europe, India and China, natural and homeopathic medicines are commonly prescribed by conventional doctors and represent a significant part of the total annual drug sales.

Naturopathy is a branch of medicine (just as allopathy is a branch of medicine) which operates according to the underlying philosophy that the body has an innate capacity to heal itself. While natural medicines are often called ‘alternative’ or ‘complimentary’ medicines, they are, in fact, a unique and independent form of medicine in their own right, well able to treat a variety of conditions. Perhaps the term ‘holistic’ medicine is more apt, given the broad range of treatment options and approaches which are to be found within the practice of natural medicine, which encompasses many different disciplines, including herbalism, homeopathy, iridology, osteopathy, chiropractic, therapeutic massage techniques, aromatherapy, acupuncture and many, many more.

Most naturopaths will use a variety of treatment modalities in order to treat their patients in a holistic way to support health, relieve symptoms and prevent future disease. In fact, even the World Health Organization defines health as being "... more than simply the absence of illness. It is the active state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being." This is a wonderfully clear description of holistic or natural medicine, which strives to support health (thereby relieving or preventing symptoms), rather than simply eliminating disease.

Although allopathic medicine certainly has a role to play and has made a tremendous contribution to medical science during the past century, there is a growing perception that it is not the only answer and that, in many cases, holistic medicine can accomplish just as much, if not more – without the risk of side effects, addiction and sacrifice to health so commonly associated with pharmaceutical drugs. Contrary to common perception, and provided that they are manufactured in the correct way, natural medicines can work quickly and safely to promote healing.

In many cases, they can succeed where pharmaceutical drugs have failed. Despite frequent reports that they are ‘unproven’ and ‘untested’, the opposite is true. Natural medicines have a long history of usage and there is a wealth of empirical evidence to support their effectiveness and safety. In addition, active clinical research is carried out by many academic hospitals and universities to support the extensive traditional and empirical evidence behind natural medicines.

It is also important to know that, like any medicine, herbal and homeopathic medicines must be manufactured in the correct way, following acceptable procedures and manufacturing methods to ensure maximum effectiveness and safety. Due to the recent rise in popularity of natural remedies, many companies have sprung up to take advantage of the market. Unfortunately not all of them are



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equipped to manufacture to the correct standards, often resulting in a flood of inferior (and sometimes even unsafe) remedies onto the market – and giving natural remedies a bad name.

Even some pharmaceutical companies have rushed to claim their market share by producing so-called ‘standardized’ extracts of herbs and offering these as superior to the tried and tested methods of naturopathic manufacturing. Nothing could be further from the truth. While ‘standardized’ extracts may offer benefit of easy consistency of dosage (and cheaper more efficient production lines), they have grave disadvantages. These include an increase in side effects as the medicines produced in this manner lose the natural protective properties of the herbs. In some cases, these side effects have proved fatal – as was seen in the liver toxicity associated with standardized extracts of kava kava, a herb previously safely used for generations without any known side effects.

Most naturopaths recommend what is called the Full Spectrum Method of extraction – which retains the benefits of ALL the active ingredients within the herb as opposed to isolating only one – thereby providing a more complete treatment as well as superior protection against side effects.

Whatever your choice, always choose wisely. Research what is best for you. If you have a chronic or life threatening condition, don’t make changes without first discussing them with your doctor in order that your condition may be monitored. Well informed and supportive practitioners will support patients who want to take responsibility for their own health.

In the treatment of depression, the following herbal and homeopathic remedies are often used as part of the treatment plan.

Related Natural Remedies:

UT-Tonic: For natural urinary tract and bladder support.

Triple Complex UT-Tonic is a **combination of three cellular-supporting tissue salts** selected for their positive effects on urinary tract and bladder health.

This combination of tissue salts can be used regularly in a general capacity to **promote systemic balance in the urinary system** as well as in conjunction with other remedies to maintain therapeutic effectiveness.

Tissue salts, also called cell salts or biochemic salts, are composed of minerals that occur naturally at a cellular level in our bodies and all organic matter on earth (plants, rocks, and soil).

In the system of biochemistry, there have been **twelve essential tissue salts** identified as important components of all body cells. Without this combination, true health is unattainable, as each tissue salt plays a different yet vital role in **maintaining cellular health in the organs and systems** of the body.

Cell salts, or biochemic tissue salts help to maximize health efforts, and **enhance the bioavailability** of all **supplements, remedies, and nutrients** in your diet to ensure that all the cells of your body and urinary system are functioning effectively.

herbal & homeopathic remedies:

1) All Native Remedies products are manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards - using only the best quality raw ingredients from nature's medicine chest.

2) Native Remedies and our suppliers are registered with the FDA as accredited suppliers and manufacturers of health supplements. Our products are sold all over the world and are manufactured to strict international standards in a GMP accredited manufacturing plant.

3) All our remedies are manufactured in an FDA registered pharmaceutical facility under close supervision.

This includes formulation, acquiring and testing of raw ingredients as well as final manufacturing. This gives us the confidence to say that when you are buying a Native Remedies product, you are buying the safest and the best! We know what goes into our remedies - which is why we know what you will get out of them!

4) Manufacturing is done strictly according to the principles of GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) and all raw ingredients undergo stringent testing before being approved by our registered manufacturing pharmacists.

5) We offer a free email [Ask Our Experts](#) service run by trained consultants ready to advise you on the best choice for your health.

6) We offer an unconditional [One Year Money Back Guarantee](#).

Our tissue salts are manufactured to ensure safe yet optimum potency, and they are safe to use for all ages, as well as during pregnancy and nursing.

[Learn more about UT-Tonic](#)

UTI-Clear: Promotes bladder and urinary tract health.

UTI-Clear is a 100% safe, non-addictive, natural herbal remedy formulated by our team of natural health experts for urinary tract health. UTI-Clear can be used consistently to safely **promote health and systemic balance in the urinary system**.

UTI-Clear contains seven herbs selected for their supportive function in maintaining urinary tract health, normal urine flow, and sustained bladder health.

UTI-Clear supports the **healthy functioning of the urinary system**, thereby helping to maintain balanced urine flow, suitable pH in the bladder, consistent elimination of toxins, and routine, healthy performance.

UTI-Clear can make all the difference to urinary tract health, without compromising health and **without the risk of serious side effects**.

The formula remains true to the **whole spectrum method** of herbal extraction, ensuring the bioavailability and balance of all the active ingredients contained in the remedy. This method of manufacture also significantly reduces the likelihood of side effects and maintains all active ingredients in perfect balance – exactly as nature intended

[Learn more about UTI-Clear](#)

ImmunityPlus: For full immune system support for adults and teens.

ImmunityPlus is a 100% safe, non-addictive natural herbal remedy formulated to safely maintain the **health and systemic balance of the immune system**, without harmful side effects and stimulants.

ImmunityPlus contains a selection of herbs known for their supportive function in maintaining immune system health and well-being. It supports the healthy functioning of the immune system, thereby helping to maintain the **natural defense against pathogens** and optimum performance.

As we grow older, we sometimes begin to notice that our immune systems are not as good as they used to be. ImmunityPlus can especially benefit those individuals needing to support routine immune strength to guard against common conditions associated with the maturing of cells.

ImmunityPlus can be used consistently, without compromising health and **not causing serious side effects**, to help maintain the body's natural ability to fight viral and bacterial infections-- while also supporting healthy convalescence.

The formula remains true to the **whole spectrum method** of herbal extraction, ensuring the bioavailability and balance of all the active ingredients contained in the remedy. This method of manufacture also significantly reduces the likelihood



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of side effects and maintains all active ingredients in perfect balance – exactly as nature intended!

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