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### **Lower urinary tract infections in primary care in Skåne, Sweden**

*Helena Kornfält Isberg, A Beckman, S Mölstad*

*Department of Clinical Sciences, Lund University, Malmö, Sweden*

*Corresponding author: PhD Fellow Helena Kornfält Isberg, Lund University, Clinical Sciences, Malmö, Sweden. E-mail: [helena.isberg@med.lu.se](mailto:helena.isberg@med.lu.se)*

**Background:** The increasing frequency of bacteria resistant to antibiotics is a global health problem. Though resistance levels still are comparatively low in Sweden we need to optimize our antibiotic use in order to preserve the effectiveness of antibiotics. Urinary tract infection (UTI) is very common among patients in primary care and prescriptions of UTI antibiotics represents the highest share of antibiotic prescriptions in primary care.

**Objectives:** To describe pathogens and prevalence of resistance to antimicrobials in urine cultures from patients 15 year and older with urinary tract symptoms in primary care and to describe symptoms and cure in relation to treatment and bacterial findings in cultures.

**Methods:** Patients aged 15 years and older attending the primary care center with a suspected UTI are invited to participate. Clinicians are asked to manage the patients according to their usual practice. Included patients will fill out a questionnaire and a symptom diary, urine samples will be sent for culture and susceptibility testing. Data collection is ongoing and we aim to recruit 400 patients.

**Results:** Data collection will be completed in February 2016. In December 2015, 302 participants with the mean age 49 years were included in the study. Urine cultures were analysed in 279 patients, 214 samples (77%) showed bacterial growth. E.coli represented 153 (71%) of the positive samples, 20% of E.coli showed resistance to Trimethoprim and 3% were ESBL-producing. Antibiotics were prescribed to 207 (69%) patients.

**Conclusion:** The present study will explore patients symptoms, the bacterial resistance in urine samples, and the cure in relation to background patient data in patients with suspected UTI seeking primary care. Key words: urinary tract infection, primary care, antibiotic resistance, urine sample.