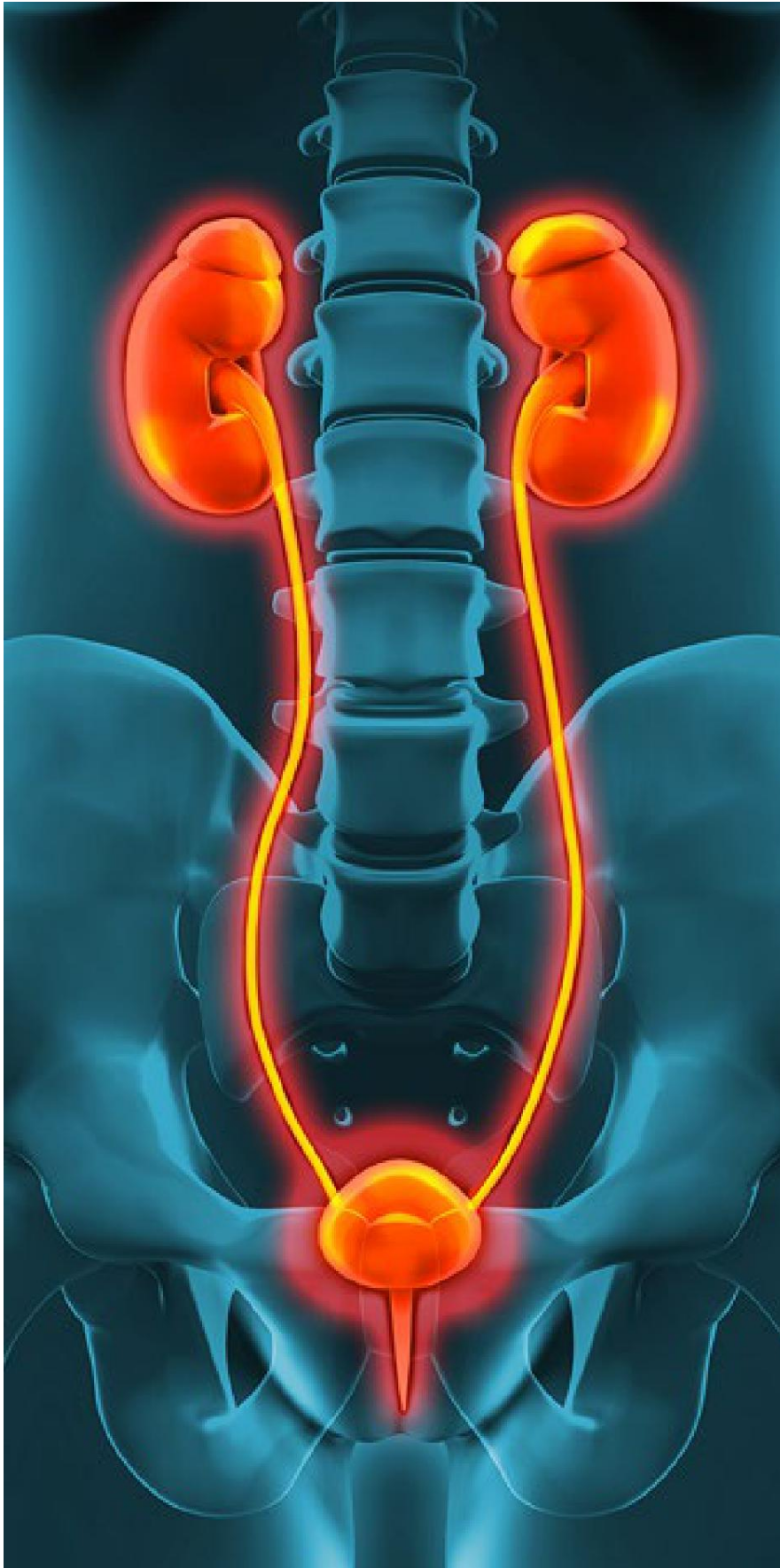




## Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)



### Overview

This is an infection of any part of your urinary system, which collects and removes urine. Most UTIs involve the urethra and bladder. But some UTIs involve the ureters and kidneys.

### Causes

Most UTIs happen when germs get into your urinary tract. These germs enter your urethra and travel up to your bladder, where they multiply. Anyone can get a UTI, but they are much more common in women. That's because women have shorter urethras than men do. Also, the opening of a woman's urethra is close to the vaginal opening and the anus, and both of these are sources of germs. For some women, UTIs are a recurrent problem.

### Symptoms

A UTI can cause a burning sensation when you pee. You may also feel the urge to pee more often. Your urine may look cloudy or reddish. It may smell bad. You can have a fever, and you may feel tired and shaky. You may have pain in your back or side. And you may feel pressure in your lower belly.

### Treatment

A urinary tract infection is treated with antibiotics. Your doctor will create a care plan that's right for you.