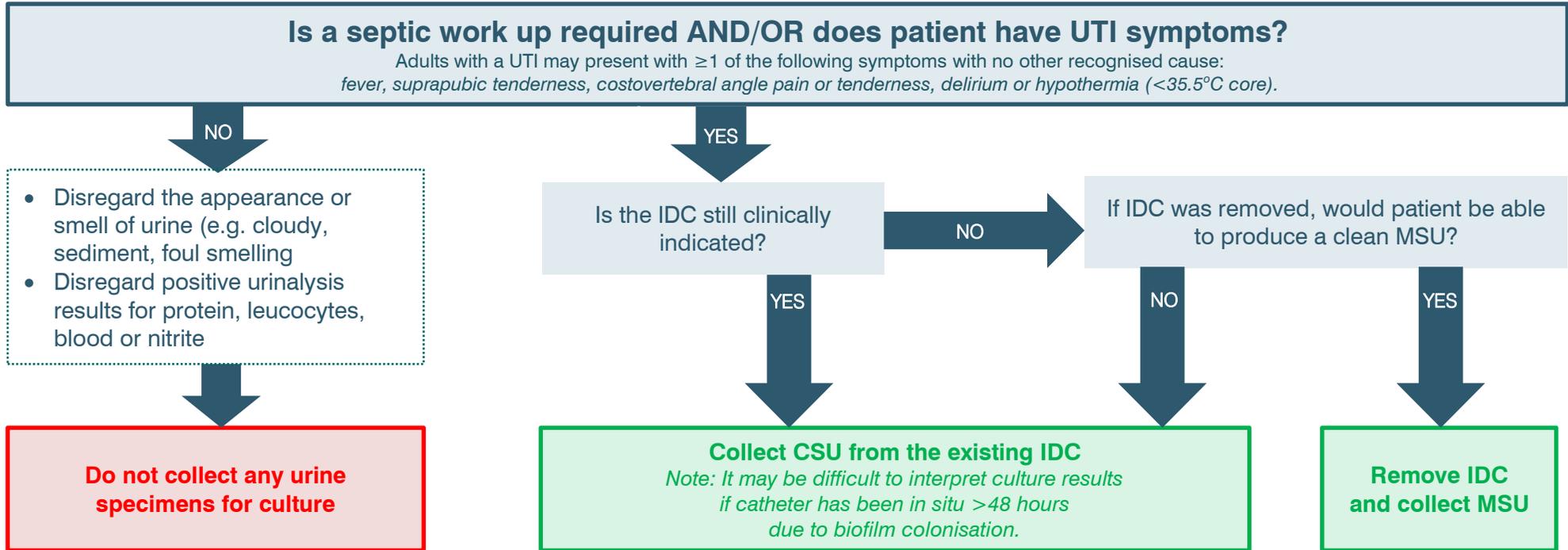


Does your patient with an IDC need a urine culture?

Use the decision tree below to determine if it is necessary to collect a urine specimen for culture from an adult catheterised patient and the type of specimen to be collected.



Remember:

- Avoid dipstick urinalysis for asymptomatic patients - positive reactions for nitrite, pyuria, leukocyte and protein are likely but do not warrant laboratory investigation.
- Adults with spinal cord injury may have a different symptom presentation or may not present with pain. Seek further advice from a senior clinician if UTI is suspected.
- Asepsis must be maintained when collecting specimens and changing catheters.
- Document the indication for urine specimen collection.
- Interpret urine culture results with caution if patient was on an antimicrobial regime at the time of or prior to specimen collection.
- Signs and symptoms of UTI among older patients, particularly those with dementia, are often vague or atypical.

IDC: Indwelling urinary catheter
 UTI: Urinary tract infection
 MSU: Mid stream urine
 CSU: Catheter specimen of urine