How safe is bladder urine culture for the management of percutaneous procedures?

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Dear Sir,

We read the article by Lei et al. [1] with great interest. This study is a valuable contribution to the literature by elucidating determination of the outcome of urine culture positive and culture negative staghorn calculi after minimally invasive percutaneous nephrolithotomy (MPCNL). We all know that MPCNL is a challenging surgical technique in the treatment of renal stones, especially staghorn ones. Congratulations to the authors for this successful large MPCNL series. However, we would like to point out an important issue, in our opinion, which was missed by the authors.

According to literature, analysis of bladder urine may not be the same as renal urine culture in obstructive kidneys. Sancaktutar et al. [2] showed that bladder urine culture was positive in 13 (39.4 %) of 33 patients; however, percutaneous nephrostomy urine culture was positive in

most of the patients ($n = 25$, 78.1 %). Lei et al. should have done a separate renal urine culture which could be obtained from percutaneous access needle at the beginning of the procedure. We believe that these missing data could be added to the literature.

Conflict of interest None to declare.

References

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