Mind Over Bladder:
Skills for Management of Common Urologic Complications
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Summary: The information in this presentation covers common urologic complications and interjects helpful knowledge and skills for nurses to manage bacteriuria, urostomies and urinary diversions, and urinary incontinence.

Nursing Implications:
• Common symptoms of a "urinary tract infection" require thorough nursing assessment and patient/family education in order to treat UTIs appropriately and avoid complications of antibiotic therapy.
• Become familiar with common urinary diversion procedures, common peristomal complications, and treatment modalities.
• Urinary incontinence negatively affects patient quality of life and should be thoroughly assessed and treated appropriately in order to prevent incontinence complications.
• Treatment for urinary tract infections and urinary incontinence should be guided by evidence-based practice and utilize the incorporation of guidelines and protocols in order to provide safe, effective treatment for our patients.

Key Takeaways:
• Not all bacteria in the urine requires antibiotic therapy. Patients should have a thorough examination and comprehensive assessment to differentiate between asymptomatic bacteriuria and true urinary tract infection.
• Unnecessary treatment of bacteriuria could lead to antibiotic-associated complications such as c. difficile colitis and can contribute to multi-drug resistant organisms.
• Become familiar with common urinary diversion procedures that are done in your area as well as common peristomal complications. Familiarity with these procedures, complications, and treatments will empower the nurse to educate and provide comfort for the patient.
• Understand that urinary incontinence is distressing for the patient. It requires a thorough examination and diagnosis with appropriate treatment modalities. This can reduce complications of urinary incontinence and exponentially improve patients' quality of life.

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