



Urogenital Tract Infection Reaches a Global Audience



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Urogenital Tract Infection has embarked on a path toward the wider world.

Urogenital Tract Infection (UTI; pISSN 2462-8243, eISSN 2465-8510) is the official journal of the Korean Association of Urogenital Tract Infection and Inflammation (KAUTII). KAUTII was established on June 11, 1999, marked by the inaugural general meeting and a commemorative lecture hosted by the Korean Urinary Tract Infection Study Group. The formation of this professional academic organization was driven by the urgent need to comprehensively address the study of urinary tract infections. This included the dissemination of emerging knowledge about the condition. To this end, the Urinary Tract Infection Study Group was created to foster basic and clinical research on urinary tract infections, facilitate the exchange of medical information, and recommend and promote effective treatment strategies in clinical practice. Additionally, the group aims to increase public awareness about urinary tract infections, propose national health policies, and promote camaraderie among its members.

UTI was launched in October 2006 under the title *Ko-*

rean Journal of Urogenital Tract Infection and Inflammation, with the pISSN 1975-7425. In 2015, starting with Volume 10 Number 2, the journal was renamed *Urogenital Tract Infection*. UTI is an international journal dedicated to publishing high-quality research papers that highlight significant and promising developments across various fields of science and technology, including clinical and basic infectious disease research. We encourage submissions of valuable basic research articles both within and beyond the scope of infection. Our goal is to expedite the introduction of groundbreaking translational developments in the field of urogenital tract infection.

This month's issue of UTI presents a detailed exploration of the epidemiological characteristics of urinary tract infections and provides the latest updates from leading authors from around the world. It features 4 review papers written by leading researchers around the world. Professor Sangrak Bae from the Catholic University of Korea discusses the global expansion of human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination and highlights the need for male HPV vaccines in Korea [1]. Professor Hae Woong Choi of Korea University examines the pathogenesis of



uropathogenic *Escherichia coli*, a primary cause of urinary tract infections. He presents a mechanism for preventive treatment that can effectively manage urogenital tract infections based on his findings [2]. Professor Ki Hong Kim from Soonchunhyang University offers a compelling explanation of how to interpret and clinically approach pyuria following transurethral prostate surgery [3]. Lastly, Professor Hee Jo Yang, also from Soonchunhyang University, provides a detailed discussion on the application of artificial intelligence in urological surgery, a topic that is currently receiving significant attention [4].

In addition, this issue contains 2 interesting original articles and 1 case study. The first original article presents a retrospective study demonstrating that performing percutaneous nephrostomy within 4 hours for patients with obstructive ureteral stones can reduce the duration of treatment in the intensive care unit [5]. The second original article explores the critical need for thorough disinfection of cystoscopy instruments, highlighting that inadequate cleaning processes can allow these tools to become reservoirs for bacteria, such as *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* [6]. The case study discusses the management of an emphysematous prostatic abscess in a patient with a spinal cord injury [7]. These studies offer important insights for hospitals and clinics managing urogenital tract infections.

I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Sang Don Lee and Professor Jae Min Chung for their 18 years of leadership at UTI. As the new head of the UTI journal starting with this issue, I feel a profound sense of responsibility. I am also grateful to Professor Seung-Kwon

Choi, Hee Jo Yang, Wuran Wei, Byeong Jin Kang, and Jae Yoon Kim for their support. Let's do our best to become an influential journal in the field of urogenital tract infection.

I look forward to your contributions!

• **Conflict of Interest:** The author has nothing to disclose.

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