



Pylonephritis

Pylonephritis is an infection of the urinary kidney that occurs if a bacterial infection in the bladder is not completely treated. It is more common in pregnant and elderly patients. Symptoms of pyelonephritis almost always include fever, which is defined as a temperature greater than 100.4° F (38° C). Pyelonephritis can also cause pain in the flank (side of lower back), nausea, and vomiting. Burning or pain on urination, frequent urination, urgency, and suprapubic pain may also occur in people with pyelonephritis.

The optimal treatment for pyelonephritis depends upon the person's underlying medical conditions and the severity of the infection. Some people will require a one to two week course of oral antibiotics at home while others will need to be hospitalized and given intravenous (IV) antibiotics and fluids.