

# A new gold rush: a review of current and developing diagnostic tools for urinary tract infections

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## Abstract

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are one of the most common infections in the world and consequently are responsible for significant healthcare expenditure. The standard urine culture is the current gold standard for diagnosing urinary tract infections, however there are limitations of the test that directly contribute to suboptimal patients' treatment and increased healthcare costs. As a result, new and innovative techniques have been developed to address the inefficiencies of the current standard. It remains to be seen whether these tests should be performed in adjunct to, or perhaps even replace the urine culture. This review aims to analyze the advantages and disadvantages of the newer and emerging diagnostic techniques such as PCR, expanded quantitative urine culture (EQUC), and next generation sequencing (NGS).

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## Biography

Shahmeen Rasul has completed her MBBS degree at the age of 22 from St George's, University of London. She is currently working in Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust as a first year doctor. Throughout her medical journey she has been President of multiple committees in the

university which ranged from humanitarian groups such as UNICEF and Doctors without Borders to academia such as Critical Care and Anaesthetics society. She takes a keen interest in surgery and has written around this in journals.