



## Complete Summary

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### **GUIDELINE TITLE**

Daytime lower urinary tract conditions. In: Guidelines on paediatric urology.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)**

Daytime lower urinary tract conditions. In: Tekgul S, Riedmiller H, Gerharz E, Hoebeke P, Kocvara R, Nijman R, Radmayr C, Stein R. Guidelines on paediatric urology. Arnhem, The Netherlands: European Association of Urology, European Society for Paediatric Urology; 2008 Mar. p. 29-32. [12 references]

### **GUIDELINE STATUS**

This is the current release of the guideline.

## COMPLETE SUMMARY CONTENT

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## SCOPE

### **DISEASE/CONDITION(S)**

Daytime lower urinary tract conditions including:

- Urge
- Incontinence
- Weak stream
- Hesitancy
- Frequency
- Urinary tract infection

**Note:** These conditions are considered in the absence of overt uropathy or neuropathy.

### **GUIDELINE CATEGORY**

Counseling  
Diagnosis  
Management  
Treatment

## **CLINICAL SPECIALTY**

Pediatrics  
Urology

## **INTENDED USERS**

Physicians

## **GUIDELINE OBJECTIVE(S)**

- To outline a practical and preliminary approach to paediatric urological problems
- To increase the quality of care for children with urological problems

## **TARGET POPULATION**

Children and adolescents with daytime lower urinary tract conditions not associated with uropathy or neuropathy

## **INTERVENTIONS AND PRACTICES CONSIDERED**

### **Diagnosis**

1. History: structured interview
2. Assessment of signs and symptoms
3. Clinical examination
4. Use of a voiding diary
5. Uroflow with post-void residual
6. Upper urinary tract ultrasound
7. Pad test
8. Video-urodynamic studies
9. Cystoscopy
10. Magnetic resonance imaging of lumbosacral spine and medulla
11. Psychological screening

### **Treatment/Management**

1. Lower urinary tract rehabilitation (standard urotherapy)
2. Specific interventions
  - Physiotherapy
  - Biofeedback
  - Alarm therapy
  - Neurostimulation
  - Pharmacotherapy: antispasmodics, anticholinergics, alpha-blocking agents, botulinum toxin

## **MAJOR OUTCOMES CONSIDERED**

- Normal bladder storage and voiding
- Daytime control of bladder function

## **METHODOLOGY**

### **METHODS USED TO COLLECT/SELECT EVIDENCE**

Searches of Electronic Databases

### **DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO COLLECT/SELECT THE EVIDENCE**

The guidelines were based on current literature following a systematic review using MEDLINE.

### **NUMBER OF SOURCE DOCUMENTS**

Not stated

### **METHODS USED TO ASSESS THE QUALITY AND STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE**

Weighting According to a Rating Scheme (Scheme Given)

### **RATING SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE**

#### **Levels of Evidence**

**1a** Evidence obtained from meta-analysis of randomized trials

**1b** Evidence obtained from at least one randomized trial

**2a** Evidence obtained from at least one well-designed controlled study without randomization

**2b** Evidence obtained from at least one other type of well-designed quasi-experimental study

**3** Evidence obtained from well-designed non-experimental studies, such as comparative studies, correlation studies and case reports

**4** Evidence obtained from expert committee reports or opinions or clinical experience of respected authorities

### **METHODS USED TO ANALYZE THE EVIDENCE**

Systematic Review

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODS USED TO ANALYZE THE EVIDENCE**

Application of a structured analysis of the literature was not possible due to a lack of well-designed studies. Whenever possible, statements have been classified in terms of level of evidence and grade of recommendation. Due to the limited availability of large randomized controlled trials – influenced also by the fact that a considerable number of treatment options relate to surgical interventions on a large spectrum of different congenital problems – this document is therefore largely a consensus document.

## **METHODS USED TO FORMULATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Expert Consensus

## **DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO FORMULATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

- The first step in the European Association of Urology (EAU) guidelines procedure is to define the main topic.
- The second step is to establish a working group. The working groups comprise about 4-8 members, from several countries. Most of the working group members are academic urologists with a special interest in the topic. In general, general practitioners or patient representatives are not part of the working groups. A chairman leads each group. A collaborative working group consisting of members representing the European Society for Paediatric Urology (ESPU) and the EAU has gathered in an effort to produce the current update of the paediatric urology guidelines.
- The third step is to collect and evaluate the underlying evidence from the published literature.
- The fourth step is to structure and present the information. The strength of the recommendation is clearly marked in three grades (A-C), depending on the evidence source upon which the recommendation is based. Every possible effort is made to make the linkage between the level of evidence and grade of recommendation as transparent as possible.

## **RATING SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Grades of Recommendation**

- A. Based on clinical studies of good quality and consistency addressing the specific recommendations and including at least one randomized trial
- B. Based on well-conducted clinical studies, but without randomized clinical studies
- C. Made despite the absence of directly applicable clinical studies of good quality

## **COST ANALYSIS**

A formal cost analysis was not performed and published cost analyses were not reviewed.

## **METHOD OF GUIDELINE VALIDATION**

## DESCRIPTION OF METHOD OF GUIDELINE VALIDATION

There is no formal external review prior to publication.

The Appraisal of Guidelines for Research and Evaluation (AGREE) instrument was used to analyse and assess a range of specific attributes contributing to the validity of a specific clinical guideline.

The AGREE instrument, to be used by two to four appraisers, was developed by the AGREE collaboration ([www.agreecollaboration.org](http://www.agreecollaboration.org)) using referenced sources for the evaluation of specific guidelines. (See the "Availability of Companion Documents" field for further methodology information).

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Levels of evidence (**1a-4**) and grades of recommendation (**A-C**) are defined at the end of the "Major Recommendations" field.

#### **Definition**

Daytime lower urinary tract (LUT) conditions are conditions that present with LUT symptoms (LUTS), including urge, incontinence, weak stream, hesitancy, frequency and urinary tract infections, but without overt uropathy or neuropathy.

Normal bladder storage and voiding involves low pressure and adequate bladder volume filling. This is then followed by a continuous detrusor contraction, which results in complete bladder emptying, associated with an adequate relaxation of the sphincter complex.

Normal urine storage by the bladder and evacuation are controlled by a complex interaction between the spinal cord, brain stem, midbrain and higher cortical structures, associated with a complex integration of sympathetic, parasympathetic and somatic innervations.

It is understandable that this complex control mechanism is likely to be susceptible to developing different types of dysfunction. Various functional disorders of the detrusor-sphincter complex may occur during the sophisticated early development of normal mechanisms of micturition control. Voiding dysfunction is therefore thought to be the expression of incomplete or delayed maturation of the bladder sphincter complex.

Normal daytime control of bladder function matures between 2 and 3 years of age, while night-time control is normally achieved between 3 and 7 years of age.

There are two main groups of voiding dysfunction, namely, filling-phase dysfunctions and voiding-phase dysfunctions.

## **Filling-phase Dysfunctions**

In filling-phase dysfunctions, the detrusor can be overactive, as in overactive bladder (OAB) and urge syndrome, or underactive, as in underactive or highly compliant bladder (formerly known as 'lazy bladder'). Furthermore, some children habitually postpone micturition leading to voiding postponement.

## **Voiding-phase (Emptying) Dysfunctions**

In voiding-phase (emptying) dysfunctions, interference with the sphincter and pelvic floor during detrusor contraction is the main dysfunction. The general term for this condition is dysfunctional voiding. Different degrees of dysfunction are described, depending on the strength of interference with the sphincter and pelvic floor. Weak interference results in staccato voiding, while stronger interference results in interrupted voiding and straining, due to an inability to relax during voiding.

Bladder sphincter dysfunction is often associated with bowel dysfunction such as obstipation and soiling. Sometimes, secondary anatomical changes are observed, such as trabeculation, diverticulae and vesicoureteral reflux.

## **Diagnosis**

A non-invasive screening, consisting of history-taking, clinical examination, uroflow, ultrasound and voiding diary, is essential to reach a diagnosis.

In the paediatric age group, where the history is taken from both the parents and child together, a structured approach is recommended using a questionnaire. Many signs and symptoms related to voiding and wetting will be unknown to the parents and should be specifically requested, using the questionnaire as a checklist. A voiding diary is mandatory to determine the child's voiding frequency and voided volumes as well as the child's drinking habits. History-taking should also include assessment of bowel function. Some dysfunctional voiding scores have recently been developed and validated.

Upon clinical examination, genital inspection and observation of the lumbosacral spine and the lower extremities is necessary to exclude obvious uropathy and neuropathy. Uroflow with post-void residual evaluates the emptying ability, while an upper urinary tract ultrasound screens for secondary anatomical changes. A voiding diary provides information about storage function and incontinence frequency, while a pad test can help to quantify the urine loss.

In the case of resistance to initial treatment, or in the case of former failed treatment, re-evaluation is warranted and further video-urodynamic studies may be considered. Sometimes, there are minor, underlying, urological or neurological problems, which can only be suspected using video-urodynamics.

In the case of anatomical problems, such as urethral valve problems, syringocoeles, congenital obstructive posterior urethral membrane (COPUM) or Moormann's ring, it may be necessary to perform further cystoscopy with treatment. If neuropathic disease is suspected, magnetic resonance imaging

(MRI) of the lumbosacral spine and medulla can help to exclude tethered cord, lipoma or other rare conditions.

Psychological screening may be useful for children or families with major psychological problems associated with the voiding dysfunction.

## **Treatment**

Treatment of voiding dysfunction consists of lower urinary tract rehabilitation, mostly referred to as urotherapy. Urotherapy means non-surgical, non-pharmacological, treatment of LUT function. It is a very broad therapy field, incorporating many treatments used by urotherapists and other healthcare professionals. Urotherapy can be divided into standard therapy and specific interventions.

### **Standard Therapy**

Standard urotherapy, which is defined as non-surgical, non-pharmacological, treatment for LUT malfunction, includes the following components:

- Information and demystification, which includes explanation about normal LUT function and how a particular child deviates from normal function
- Instruction about what to do about the problem, i.e., regular voiding habits, sound voiding posture, avoiding holding manoeuvres, etc.
- Lifestyle advice, regarding fluid intake, prevention of constipation, etc.
- Registration of symptoms and voiding habits using bladder diaries or frequency-volume charts
- Support and encouragement via regular follow-up by the caregiver

Most studies on the effect of urotherapy programmes are retrospective. Independent of the elements of a urotherapy programme, a success rate of 80% has been described. The evidence level is low as most studies are retrospective and non-controlled.

### **Specific Interventions**

As well as urotherapy, there are some specific interventions, including physiotherapy (e.g., pelvic floor exercises), biofeedback, alarm therapy and neurostimulation. Although good results with these treatment modalities have been reported, there have been no randomized controlled treatment trials (RCTs), so that the level of evidence is low.

In some cases, pharmacotherapy may be added. Antispasmodics and anticholinergics have been shown to be effective. However, even for these pharmacological interventions, no RCTs have been published, so that the level of evidence is low. Although alpha-blocking agents are used occasionally, a recent RCT showed no benefit. More recently, newer drugs have become available and have been tested in children. Even botulinum toxin injection seems to be promising.

However, the evidence currently available suggests that a good outcome is simply related to the fact that training is being given and attention is being paid to the child's incontinence problem rather than a specific kind and/or amount of training being required.

**Definitions:**

**Levels of Evidence**

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**CLINICAL ALGORITHM(S)**

None provided

**EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**TYPE OF EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The type of supporting evidence is identified and graded for some of the recommendations (see "Major Recommendations" field).

**BENEFITS/HARMS OF IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS**

**POTENTIAL BENEFITS**



- Appropriate diagnosis, treatment, and management of daytime lower urinary tract conditions
- Daytime control of bladder function

## POTENTIAL HARMS

Not stated

## QUALIFYING STATEMENTS

### QUALIFYING STATEMENTS

The purpose of these texts is not to be proscriptive in the way a clinician should treat a patient but rather to provide access to the best contemporaneous consensus view on the most appropriate management currently available. European Association of Urology (EAU) guidelines are not meant to be legal documents but are produced with the ultimate aim to help urologists with their day-to-day practice.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINE

### DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The European Association of Urology (EAU) Guidelines long version (containing all 19 guidelines) is reprinted annually in one book. Each text is dated. This means that if the latest edition of the book is read, one will know that this is the most updated version available. The same text is also made available on a CD (with hyperlinks to PubMed for most references) and posted on the EAU websites Uroweb and Urosource ([www.uroweb.org/professional-resources/guidelines/](http://www.uroweb.org/professional-resources/guidelines/) & <http://www.urosource.com/diseases/>).

Condensed pocket versions, containing mainly flow-charts and summaries, are also printed annually. All these publications are distributed free of charge to all (more than 10,000) members of the Association. Abridged versions of the guidelines are published in European Urology as original papers. Furthermore, many important websites list links to the relevant EAU guidelines sections on the association websites and all, or individual, guidelines have been translated to some 15 languages.

## INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (IOM) NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY REPORT CATEGORIES

### IOM CARE NEED

Getting Better

### IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness  
Patient-centeredness

## IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND AVAILABILITY

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)

Daytime lower urinary tract conditions. In: Tekgul S, Riedmiller H, Gerharz E, Hoebeke P, Kocvara R, Nijman R, Radmayr C, Stein R. Guidelines on paediatric urology. Arnhem, The Netherlands: European Association of Urology, European Society for Paediatric Urology; 2008 Mar. p. 29-32. [12 references]

### ADAPTATION

Not applicable: The guideline was not adapted from another source.

### DATE RELEASED

2008 Mar

### GUIDELINE DEVELOPER(S)

European Association of Urology - Medical Specialty Society  
European Society for Paediatric Urology - Medical Specialty Society

### SOURCE(S) OF FUNDING

European Association of Urology

### GUIDELINE COMMITTEE

Not stated

### COMPOSITION OF GROUP THAT AUTHORED THE GUIDELINE

*Primary Authors:* S. Tekgül; H. Riedmiller; E. Gerharz; P. Hoebeke; R. Kocvara; R. Nijman; Chr. Radmayr; R. Stein

### FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

All members of the working group submit a conflict of interest form. The information is kept on file in the European Association of Urology (EAU) Central Office database. This guidelines document was developed with the financial support of the EAU. No external sources of funding and support have been involved. The EAU is a non-profit organisation and funding is limited to administrative assistance, travel, and meeting expenses. No honoraria or other reimbursements have been provided.

### GUIDELINE STATUS

This is the current release of the guideline.

## **GUIDELINE AVAILABILITY**

Electronic copies: Available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the [European Association of Urology Web site](#).

Print copies: Available from the European Association of Urology, PO Box 30016, NL-6803, AA ARNHEM, The Netherlands.

## **AVAILABILITY OF COMPANION DOCUMENTS**

The following are available:

- EAU guidelines office template. Arnhem, The Netherlands: European Association of Urology (EAU); 2007. 4 p.
- The European Association of Urology (EAU) guidelines methodology: a critical evaluation. Arnhem, The Netherlands: European Association of Urology (EAU); 18 p.

Print copies: Available from the European Association of Urology, PO Box 30016, NL-6803, AA ARNHEM, The Netherlands.

## **PATIENT RESOURCES**

None available

## **NGC STATUS**

This NGC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on November 14, 2008. The information was verified by the guideline developer on December 19, 2008.

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