# Bladder Pain, Interstitial Cystitis (IC), and Recurrent UTIs



**Understanding Your Symptoms** - Do you have bladder pain, frequent urination, or recurring infections? You're not alone—and there are ways we can help.

### ☐ What Is Interstitial Cystitis (IC)?

Interstitial Cystitis (IC), also called Bladder Pain Syndrome, is a chronic condition that causes:

- Bladder pain or pressure
- Frequent urination
- · Strong urge to urinate
- Discomfort in the pelvis, urethra, or lower back

Symptoms often last longer than 6 weeks and are not caused by infection.

#### ■ What Is a Recurrent UTI?

A urinary tract infection (UTI) happens when bacteria get into the bladder. Recurrent UTIs are:

- 2+ infections in 6 months or
- 3+ infections in a year

Symptoms may include:

- · Burning with urination
- · Frequent or urgent need to go
- Pressure or pain in the bladder
- Cloudy or foul-smelling urine that coincides with other symptoms

### ☐ How Do We Diagnose These Conditions?

We start with:

- A detailed history of your symptoms
- ✓ Urine tests to check for infection
- ✓ A voiding diary to track your habits
- ✓ Bladder or pelvic exams
- Sometimes a bladder scope (cystoscopy)

## ☐ How Are They Treated?

We create a plan that fits your body and lifestyle. Common treatments include:

#### For IC:

- Medications (e.g. anticholinergics, amitriptyline)
- Bladder instillations (healing meds placed directly in your bladder)
- Hydrodistension (gently stretching your bladder)
- Pelvic floor physical therapy
- Diet changes to avoid bladder irritants (like coffee, citrus, or spicy foods)



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#### For Recurrent UTIs:

- Low-dose antibiotics (preventive use)
- Estrogen cream
- Supplements (like D-mannose or cranberry)
- · Hygiene and bladder habits coaching

#### ■ What Can I Do at Home?

- Drink plenty of water
- Pee after sex
- Wipe front to back
- Avoid bladder irritants (caffeine, alcohol, spicy food)
- Don't hold your urine

#### ☐ When Should I Call the Doctor?

Call us if you have:

- · Pain that keeps coming back
- 2+ infections in 6 months
- Blood in your urine
- · Fever or back pain
- · Symptoms that affect your daily life

For more information about Advanced Urology or Dr. Chirag Dave, please visit <a href="https://www.advancedurology.com">www.advancedurology.com</a>







# Resources Chirag Dave, MD

#### **About Me**

Thank you for choosing me as your doctor. Please watch the video to learn more about me and my practice. I look forward to helping you on your journey to better health.

#### We Value Your Feedback

If you had a positive experience with your care, we would be grateful if you could take a moment to leave us a 5-star review on Google. Your feedback helps other patients find the support they need and allows us to continue providing excellent care.



**Marietta Clinic** 

For more information about Advanced Urology or Dr. Chirag Dave, please visit <a href="https://www.advancedurology.com">www.advancedurology.com</a>

