



When you read up about your physical condition, you take an important tool into your own hands. The more you know about your physical condition, and the more positive steps you take, the better your chance for positive outcomes and treatment success.

Health Topic: Hematuria

What is Hematuria? Hematuria is the medical term for blood in the urine.

How is hematuria detected? Blood in urine is detected either visually (gross hematuria) or seen under a microscope (microscopic hematuria) or during an office urine dipstick test.

What causes hematuria? There are many potential causes of hematuria. The causes range from those with little consequence to the patient to those that may be life-threatening.

Some of the more common causes of blood in urine include:

- urinary tract infection
- kidney stones
- prostate enlargement
- kidney tumors or cancer
- bladder tumors or cancer
- prostate cancers
- drug induced

How are the causes of hematuria discovered? Complete evaluation by a urologist is typically required.

What is required to evaluate hematuria? A urologic evaluation for hematuria typically includes a medical history, physical examination, laboratory testing for abnormal cells in the urine, and imaging studies.

Imaging studies may utilize one or more of the following: CAT scanning, intravenous urogram, ultrasound, and MRI.

Finally, the urologist inspects the bladder under direct vision with a simple office test known as cystoscopy.

Treatment and follow-up plans would depend on the result of complete evaluation by a urologist.