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Authors: Natasha Curtiss, Aswini Balachandran, Louise Krska, Claire Peppiatt-Wildman, Scott Wildman, Jonathan Duckett



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AGE, MENOPAUSAL STATUS AND THE BLADDER MICROBIOME

Natasha Curtiss¹, Aswini Balachandran¹, Louise Krska², Claire Peppiatt-Wildman², Scott Wildman², Jonathan Duckett¹

¹ *Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Medway Maritime Hospital, Gillingham, Kent, UK. ME7 5NY*

² *Urinary-System physiology Unit, Medway school of Pharmacy, Universities of Kent ME4 4TB*

Corresponding Author:

Prof Jonathan Duckett MB ChB MD(Res) FRCOG, Consultant Urogynaecologist

Medway Maritime Hospital, Windmill Road, Gillingham, Kent, UK. ME7 5NY

Tele no: 01634 835154 Fax no: 01634 835155

Email address: jraduckett@hotmail.com

Abstract

Objectives: The bladder is not sterile but contains a healthy community of microbes termed the microbiome. Alterations in the bladder microbiome have been demonstrated in disease states such as the overactive bladder. The microbiome in other anatomical niches is known to alter with age eg the vagina. The objective of this study was to identify if the bladder microbiome in healthy women varies with age and menopausal status.

Study design: Urine from 79 healthy women attending secondary care gynaecological clinics with no urinary symptoms provided clean catch mid-stream urine specimens. Urine was

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