

Treatment Algorithm

**IC/BPS:** An unpleasant sensation (pain, pressure, discomfort) perceived to be related to the urinary bladder, associated with lower urinary tract symptoms of more than six weeks duration, in the absence of infection or other identifiable causes

The evidence supporting the use of Neuromodulation, Cyclosporine A, and BTX for IC/BPS is limited by many factors including study quality, small sample sizes, and lack of durable follow up. None of these therapies have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for this indication. The panel believes that none of these interventions can be recommended for generalized use for this disorder, but rather should be limited to practitioners with experience managing this syndrome and willingness to provide long term care of these patients post intervention.

**Basic Assessment**  
 History  
 Frequency/Volume Chart  
 Post-void residual  
 Physical examination  
 Urinalysis, culture  
 Cytology if smoking hx  
 Symptom questionnaire  
 Pain evaluation

Dx Urinary Tract Infection

**TREAT & REASSESS**

Signs/Symptoms of Complicated IC/BPS

Incontinence/OAB  
 GI signs/symptoms  
 Microscopic/gross hematuria/sterile pyuria  
 Gynecologic signs/symptoms

**Consider:**  
 - Urine cytology  
 - Imaging  
 - Cystoscopy  
 - Urodynamics  
 - Laparoscopy  
 - Specialist referral (urologic or non-urologic as appropriate)

**Clinical Management Principles**  
 - Treatments are ordered from most to least conservative; surgical treatment is appropriate only after other treatment options have been found to be ineffective (except for treatment of Hunner's lesions if detected)  
 - Initial treatment level depends on symptom severity, clinician judgment, and patient preferences  
 - Multiple, simultaneous treatments may be considered if in best interests of patient  
 - Ineffective treatments should be stopped  
 - Pain management should be considered throughout course of therapy with goal of maximizing function and minimizing pain and side effects  
 - Diagnosis should be reconsidered if no improvement w/in clinically-meaningful time-frame

**First-Line Treatments**  
 General Relaxation/Stress Management  
 Pain Management  
 Patient Education  
 Self-care/Behavioral Modification

**Second-Line Treatments**  
 Appropriate manual physical therapy techniques  
 Oral: amitriptyline, clometidine, hydroxyzine, PPS  
 Intravesical: DMSO, heparin, Lidocaine  
 Pain Management

**Third-Line Treatments**  
 Cystoscopy under anesthesia w/ hydrodistension  
 Pain Management  
 Tx o Hunner's lesions if found

**Fourth-Line Treatments**  
 Neuromodulation  
 Pain Management

**Fifth-Line Treatments**  
 Cyclosporine A  
 Intradermal BTX  
 Pain Management

**Sixth-Line Treatments**  
 Diversion w/ or w/out cystostomy  
 Pain Management  
 Substitution cystoplasty  
 NOTE: For patients with end-stage structurally small bladders, diversion is indicated at any time clinician and patient believe appropriate

**TREAT AS INDICATED**

NORMAL

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