Title: Screening for Bladder Cancer in Adults

Literature Surveillance Date: April 2019

Recommendation Summary: In 2011, the Task Force concluded that the evidence is insufficient to assess the balance of benefits and harms of screening for bladder cancer in asymptomatic adults (Grade: I statement).

Summary of New Evidence: Literature scans were conducted in the MEDLINE and PubMed databases and the Cochrane Library. Results were limited to articles in English language and in core and specialty journals that were published 2009 to present.

Systematic Reviews
We identified no relevant systematic reviews on the impact of screening for bladder cancer on morbidity and mortality, outcomes of treatment of screen-detected bladder cancer, or harms of screening for or treatment of screen-detected bladder cancer. A 2012 systematic review included studies published through March 2011 that evaluated the diagnostic accuracy of urine survivin tests for bladder cancer, using cystoscopy and/or histopathology as the reference standard.¹ A 2015 Cochrane review of screening with urinary dipsticks (search through September 2014) includes discussion of screening for bladder cancer but identified no studies that met inclusion criteria.²

Primary Studies
We found no randomized, controlled trials or controlled observational studies reporting health outcomes or harms of screening for bladder cancer and no studies of the diagnostic accuracy of screening tests (urinalysis, urinary cytology, or other urine biomarkers) for bladder cancer in asymptomatic populations. All studies of urine tests for bladder cancer retrieved in our search were conducted in either symptomatic populations or in those with an existing bladder cancer diagnosis.

No randomized, controlled trials or controlled observational studies compared the benefits or harms of treatment of screen-detected bladder cancer with no treatment.

References