

Dr. Nicholas Franco Explains the Link Between Urinary Tract Infections and Female Pelvic Pain



New Orleans, Louisiana Jul 9, 2024 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - Renowned urologist Dr. Nicholas Franco highlights the misunderstood connection between Urinary Tract Infections (UTIs) and Female Pelvic Pain (FPP). With decades of experience in urological care and a deep understanding of both conditions, [Dr. Nicholas Franco](#) offers valuable insights to help women distinguish between these common yet distinct health issues.

Understanding UTIs and Female Pelvic Pain

Urinary Tract Infections affect any part of the urinary system, including the kidneys, bladder, ureters, and urethra. They are primarily caused by bacteria entering the urinary tract, leading to inflammation and pain. According to Dr. Nicholas Franco, Female Pelvic Pain encompasses a broader range of conditions that affect the reproductive organs, pelvic muscles, and surrounding tissues. While both

conditions impact the lower part of the female body, Dr. Nicholas Franco says, they originate from different areas and have distinct symptoms.

The Link Between UTIs and Female Pelvic Pain

Dr. Nicholas Franco explains that if a UTI is left untreated, the infection can ascend from the lower urinary tract to the upper urinary tract, reaching the kidneys. This can lead to a more severe condition known as pyelonephritis, which can cause significant pelvic pain. Additionally, Dr. Nicholas Franco says, the bacteria from a UTI can spread to the reproductive organs, potentially causing pelvic inflammatory disease (PID), which is a common cause of chronic pelvic pain in women.

Symptoms of Female Pelvic Pain

Dr. Nicholas Franco emphasizes that while there is a connection between UTIs and FPP, most women experience these conditions separately. To help women identify Female Pelvic Pain, Dr. Nicholas Franco outlines several key symptoms unrelated to UTIs. He explains that persistent and severe pain in the pelvic area, fever, discomfort or pain during intercourse, unusual vaginal discharge, irregular menstrual cycles, lower back pain, vomiting, and general fatigue are typical indicators of Female Pelvic Pain. These symptoms, he says, often point to reproductive system issues rather than urinary tract problems.

Symptoms of Urinary Tract Infections

In contrast, Dr. Nicholas Franco highlights the typical symptoms of UTIs, which primarily affect the urinary system. According to Dr. Nicholas Franco, a persistent and urgent need to urinate, a burning sensation during urination, frequent urination with minimal output, reddish or cola-colored urine, and foul-smelling urine are common signs of a UTI. These symptoms, he notes, are distinct from those of Female Pelvic Pain and primarily indicate an infection in the urinary tract.

Importance of Early Diagnosis and Treatment

Dr. Nicholas Franco stresses distinguishing between these two conditions to ensure appropriate treatment. Early diagnosis and treatment of UTIs, he says, can prevent the infection from spreading to the reproductive organs and causing complications such as Female Pelvic Pain. By recognizing the symptoms early, women can seek timely medical intervention, reducing the risk of chronic pain and other long-term health issues. According to Dr. Nicholas Franco, understanding these differences can help women get the proper treatment quickly before the problem escalates.

Positive Developments in Urological Care

[Dr. Nicholas Franco](#) has significantly contributed to urological care in Montreal, New Orleans, and Florida. His extensive academic background includes degrees in human physiology and renal physiology from McGill University and the University of Sherbrooke, respectively, and an MD from the Université de Montréal. Dr. Nicholas Franco's training includes residencies and fellowships in Urogynecology, Pelvic Floor Reconstruction, and Advanced Urologic Laparoscopic Surgery, and he has held key academic positions, including Associate Clinical Professor of Surgery and Head of Female Urology at Tulane University School of Medicine. Though retired, Dr. Nicholas Franco's work in the field continues to influence and improve patient care.

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