AGEISM synopsis:

Station: Common infections in elderly patients:

Patient 1:
First presentation:
UTI: ‘generally unwell’, afebrile
Challenges in diagnosing infections in elderly and atypical presentations
Lack of mounting a fever, definition of fever in elderly
Diagnosis of UTI in elderly patients

Patient 2:
Asymptomatic bacteriuria
C. difficile after given Ceftriaxone for misdiagnosed UTI
Missed cauda equina: Urinary incontinence

Patient 3:
Indwelling urinary catheter: UTI or not
Inappropriate use of urinary catheters and early removal when used

Other infections missed in elderly patients:
Infective endocarditis
HIV

References:
Therapeutic Guidelines: Urinary Tract Infections, including UTI in aged-care facility residents, Catheter-associated bacteriuria and urinary tract infections and Asymptomatic bacteriuria
Cochrane: Antibiotic duration for treating uncomplicated symptomatic lower urinary tract infection in elderly women
Therapeutic Guidelines: Cellulitis and erysipelas
Theresa A Rowe, Yale University School of Medicine: Urinary Tract Infections in older Adults and Diagnosis and Management of Urinary Tract Infection in Older Adults
Angela Liu et al: Serum C-reactive protein as a biomarker for early detection of bacterial infection in the older patient
UptoDate: Evaluation of infection in the older adult
Deverick J Anderson: Clinics in Geriatric Medicine: Skin and Soft Tissue Infections in Older Adults
SA Health: Empirical treatment of Bacterial Urinary Tract Infections (Adults) Clinical Guideline
Morgyn Warner: Reducing the rate of catheter-associated urinary tract infections: The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Adelaide
Central Adelaide Local Health Network: UTI: Empiric Treatment Guideline
SA Health LMH: Assessment and Treatment of Lower Limb Cellulitis (Adult)