

## Foreign Body Infections Orthopedic Devices

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## Pathogenesis of Device Infection

- Direct introduction of pathogen at surgery with use or manipulation
- Device erosion into contaminated area
- Direct extension of adjacent infection
- Hematogenous seeding
- Depressed local host defenses: C', PMNs
- Biofilm – Embedded organisms stationary phase and resist action of many antibiotics

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## Microbiology Spine Implant Infection

| Microbiology      | Early* (N=30) | Late† (N=51) |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|
| S aureus          | 13            | 15           |
| Coag-neg staph    | 6             | 13           |
| Gram-neg bacilli  | 10            | 1            |
| Streptococci      | 5             | 11           |
| Peptostreptococci | 2             | 1            |
| Corynebacteria    | 2             | 2            |
| P acnes           | 2             | 9            |
| Candida           | ---           | 3            |
| Lactobacillus     | ---           | 1            |
| Culture negative  | 1             | 8            |

\*7 polymicrobial.

†12 polymicrobial. Kowalski et al. CID 2007;44(April 1).

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## Characteristics of Foreign Body Infections

- Relatively **infrequent events** (occasional exceptions – often percutaneous element: CAPD catheter, ventricular assist device )
- Often **caused by low inoculum exposure**
- May be cause by low virulence organism (high virulence too –relates to pathogenesis)
- Selected organisms implicated frequently, likely a **unique “tropism” - Staphylococci**
- Difficult to cure without **device removal**
- Cause significant **morbidity and mortality**

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## Outcome of Early Spine Implant Infection

|   |                      |    |
|---|----------------------|----|
| Total   |                      | 30 |
| Implant removed                               |                      | 1  |
| Antibiotics only                              |                      | 1  |
| Debride - retain- antibiotic – no suppression |                      | 6  |
| Fail  | 5 (83%)              |    |
| Debride – retain – antibiotic - suppression   |                      | 22 |
| Fail  | 5 (23%)              |    |
| Non-failure                                   | 17                   |    |
| On suppression                                | 7                    |    |
| Off suppression                               | 468 d (169-687)      | 10 |
| Antibiotic therapy                            | IV 41 d (27-43)      |    |
|   | Oral 303 d (147-672) |    |

Kowalski et al. CID 2007;44(April 1).

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## Outcome of Late Spinal Implant Infection

|                                |         |    |
|--------------------------------|---------|----|
| Total                          |         | 51 |
| Antibiotics only               |         | 6  |
| Failed                         | 4 (67%) |    |
| Debride – retain – antibiotics |         | 13 |
| Suppressed - failed/total      | 4/8     |    |
| Non-suppressed - failed/total  | 3/5     |    |
| Debride – remove – antibiotics |         | 32 |
| Failed                         | 7 (22%) |    |
| New implant                    | 10      |    |
| Cured                          | 15      |    |
| Antibiotic therapy             |         |    |
| IV 42 d (36-44)                |         |    |
| Oral 410 d (61-667)            |         |    |

Kowalski et al. CID 2007;44(April 1).

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## Prosthetic Joint Infection Clinical Presentations

- **Acute wound infection** extending to joint  
Post operative wound infection –  
days to 1 month- out to 3 months
- **Cryptic indolent infection** –Several months  
to 2 yrs post op. Major symptom is  
pain
- **Acute septic arthritis**  
> 2 yrs after joint replacement

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## Diagnosis of Prosthetic Joint Infection: Pre – Intra Operative Assessment

### Diagnosis:

- Preoperative joint aspirate: 2 or 3 pos of > 3  
specimens -86% sensitivity,94% specificity
- Gram stain not useful
- At surgery obtain  $\geq$  3 or 4 specimens (capsule,  
membrane at implant, suspicious tissue), multiple  
positive cultures
- $\geq$  5 PMN/hpf considered diagnostic (sensitivity  $\geq$   
80%, specificity  $\geq$  90%)

Atkins, J Clin Micro 1998; 36:2932

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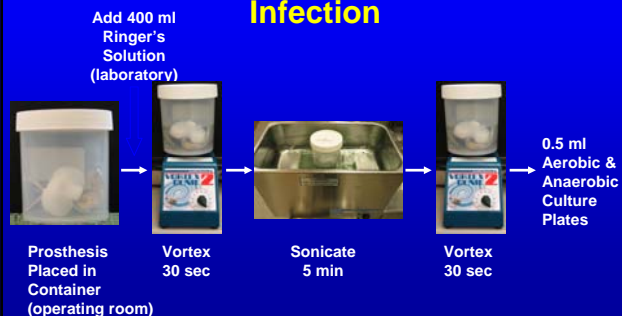
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## Prosthesis Sonication Provides Increased Sensitivity for Prosthetic Joint Infection



Trampuz et al. NEJM 2007;357:654

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## Sonication of Removed Hip and Knee Prostheses for Diagnosis of Infection (Aseptic Failure 252; PJI 79)

|                 | Cultured Material |          |                |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|----------------|
|                 | Sonicate*         | Tissue** | Synovial Fluid |
| Sensitivity (%) | 78.5              | 60.8     | 56.3           |
| Specificity (%) | 98.8              | 99.2     | 98.1           |

14/79 sonicate only positive: CN Staph 5, S. aureus 3, Enterococcus 2, Strep 1, Candida 1, Propionibacteria 2

17 sonicate negative

\* > 5 CFU/plate; \*\* = 2 specimens positive

**PERFORMS BEST IF OFF RX 14 DAYS**

Trampuz, et al., NEJM 2007; 357:654.

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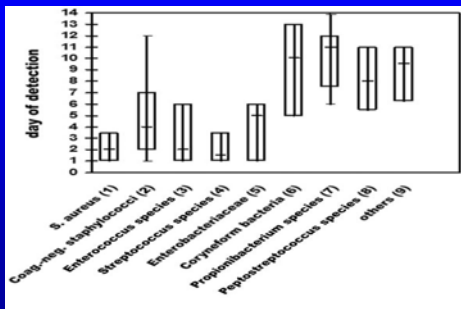
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## Prosthetic Joint Infection; Time to Detection in Culture



Schafer et al. CID 2008;47: 1403-9

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## Synovial Fluid for Diagnosis of Infected Prosthetic Knee Joint – 133 Failed TKR

|                                   | Aseptic<br>N=99 | Septic<br>N=34 | P<br>Value |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------|
| ≥ 1 positive culture fluid/tissue | 6 (6)           | 31 (91)        | <0.001     |
| WBC x 10 <sup>3</sup> /μL         | 0.3 (0.1-16)    | 18.9 (0.3-178) | <0.001     |
| Percent Neutrophils (range)       | 7 (0-79)        | 92 (55-100)    | <0.001     |

Trampuz, et al., Am J Med 2004; 117:556-562.

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### Hematogenous Seeding of Prosthetic Joints: Organisms Isolated from Joint 36 Cases

|                             |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| S.aureus                    | 12 |
| S.epidermidis               | 3  |
| Group A streptococci        | 2  |
| Beta-hemolytic streptococci | 4  |
| Enterococci                 | 1  |
| Diphtheroid                 | 1  |
| E.coli                      | 2  |
| P.aeruginosa                | 2  |
| Enterobacteriaceae          | 1  |
| Other GNR                   | 3  |
| Bacteroides                 | 2  |
| Mixed Gr+/GR-               | 3  |

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### Infection of Orthopedic Devices After S. aureus Bacteremia

- Prosthetic joints: Infected/Bacteremic (%)
- All ———→ 15/44 (34)
  - Knees —→ 5/10 (50)
  - Hips ———→ 9/34 (26)
- Devices —————→ 1/15 (7)
- 13 mos – 25 years after placement
  - Diagnosis after bacteremia: 0-65 d (median 3)

Murdoch, et al., CID 2002; 32:647

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### Treatment of Foreign Body Infection

#### • Goals of Therapy

- Preserve Life
- Relieve Pain
- Eradicate infection with or without device removal
- Maintain device function or provide an alternative

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## Treatment of Infected Joint Prosthesis

- Traditional approach – device removal
- Consider patient’s general health
- Consider device function – pain/loosening
- Options:
  - Amputation
  - Arthrodesis
  - Resection arthroplasty
  - One stage revision: 80% success
  - Two stage revision: 85-91% success
    - Antibiotic impregnated cement may increase success rate
  - Debridement and Retention

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## Treatment of Prosthetic Joint Infection

Prosthesis loose  
Mild tissue damage  
“Susceptible”  
organism

Debridement  
One stage exchange  
Antibiotic therapy 3-6  
mos

Prosthesis loose, Resistant  
organism, Mod/severe  
tissue damage

Debride/remove device  
Spacer- suscept organism  
No spacer- resist organism  
Antibiotic Therapy  $\geq 6$  wks

Assessment hiatus varies  
with pathogen  
Reinsert prosthesis  
Antibiotic suppression

Zimmerli et al. *NEJM* 2004;351:1645-1654.

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## Treatment of Infected Prosthetic Joints

| Approach (year of publication)  | No Recurrence  |
|---|--|
| • Resection arthroplasty<br>(1977-89)<br>(1985-90)  | 236/301 THA (78%)<br>25/32 TKA (78%)                   |
| • One step exchange (1978-89)<br>Without antibiotic in cement<br>With antibiotic in cement            | 145/160 THA (90%)<br>915/1143 THA (80%)                |
| • Two step exchange (1981-89)<br>Without antibiotic in cement<br>With antibiotic in cement            | 115/202 THA (84%)<br>51/60 THA (85%)                   |
| Without antibiotic in cement<br>With antibiotic in cement<br>With antibiotic in cement plus<br>spacer | 88/102 TKA (86%)<br>33/37 TKA (89%)<br>53/58 TKA (91%) |

Steckleberg & Osman, *Infections Associated with Indwelling Devices*, ASM Press 1994

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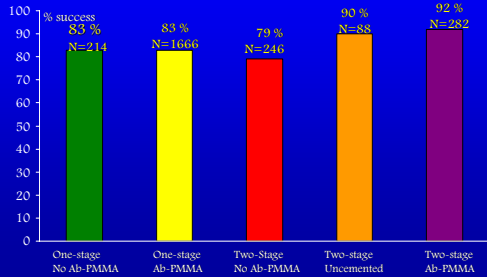
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## Management Reimplantation-THA Infection One Stage vs. Two Stage Exchange



Steckelberg, J.M., Osmon, D.R. In Press. Prosthetic joint infections. In: Bisno, A. L., Waldvogel, F.A. *Infections Associated With Indwelling Medical Devices*.

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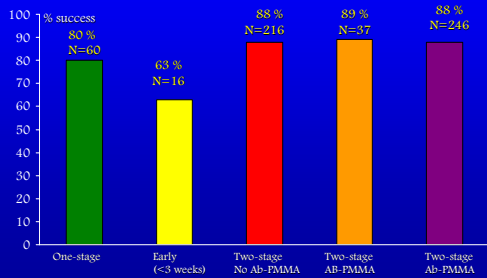
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## Management Reimplantation-TKA Infection



Steckelberg, J.M., Osmon, D.R. In Press. Prosthetic joint infections. In: Bisno, A. L., Waldvogel, F.A. *Infections Associated With Indwelling Medical Devices*.

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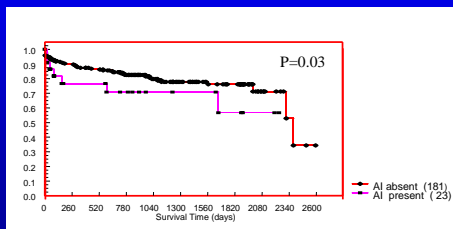
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## 213 PJI Treated with Two Staged Exchange 1995-99

Kaplan –Meier Joint Survival  
Cumulative Proportion of PJ Survival



Marculescu, et al. IDSA 2003 Abstr #283

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## Culture Negative Prosthetic Joint Infection in 60 (7%) of 897 Infections

- **Features:** T° > 38-13 (22%); sinus – 6 (10%); purulence 27 (45%); pathology 47 (78%)
- **Antibiotics within prior 3 months:** 32 (53%); 14 ongoing
- **Treatment:**
  - **Surgery:** 2 stage 34 (57%); retain 12 (20%); resection 8 (13%); 1 stage 5 (7%); amputate 1 (2%)
  - **Antibiotic:** cephalosporins, vancomycin, median 28d (2-88)
- **Outcome:** 5 yr survival 82% (2 stage 94%; retention 71%, resection 51%)

Barbari, et al., CID 2007; 45:1113-9.

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## Treatment of Enterococcal Prosthetic Joint Infection

| Variable            | Monotherapy (%)<br>N=31 | Combination Rx (%)<br>N=19 | P     |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| Loosening           | 11 (35)                 | 15 (79)                    | 0.004 |
| Surgical Rx         |                         |                            |       |
| 2 stage             | 9 (29)                  | 8 (42)                     |       |
| Resection           | 14 (45)                 | 9 (47)                     |       |
| Retain              | 5 (16)                  | 0                          |       |
| Failure             | 5 (16)                  | 7 (37)                     | 0.2   |
| Nephrotoxicity      | 2 (6)                   | 5 (26)                     | 0.09  |
| CN VIII Toxicity    | 0                       | 6 (32)                     | 0.002 |
| 2 yr Infection Free | 88% (77-100)            | 72 % (54-96)               | 0.1   |

Helou, et al., CID 2008; 47:903-909.

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## PJI - Debridement and Retention Potential Utilization

- Relatively avirulent organism (strep > staph)
- Susceptible to oral antimicrobials
- Well seated prosthesis (not loose)
- Short duration symptoms (< 2-3 wks, days)
- Debridement (? change liner)
- Not necessarily recent implant
- Long term suppressive therapy desirable ?
- Patient with increased surgical risks

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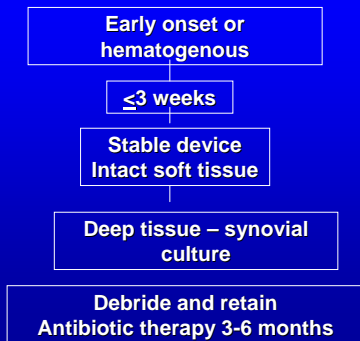
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## Treatment of Prosthetic Joint Infection



Zimmerli et al. *NEJM* 2004;351:1645-1654.

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## Outcome of PJI Treated with Debridement and Retention of Components 1995-99

- Treated: 99/509 (19%) **None loose intraop**
- Staphylococci: 32% *S. aureus*; 23% CNS, 14% strep
- IV Antibiotics: 28 d median (1-90)
- Suppression: 89% median 541 d (4-2673)
- Failure 53 pts median F/U 700 d (1-2779)
- Success 2 yrs: 60% (50-71% CI)
- Risk Failure: *S. aureus* [HR 5.1 (2.3-11.2)], sinus track [HR 2.8 (1.5-5.4)]; Sx > 8 d [HR 1.79 (1.04-3.09)]

Marculescu, et al., *CID* 2006;42:471-8

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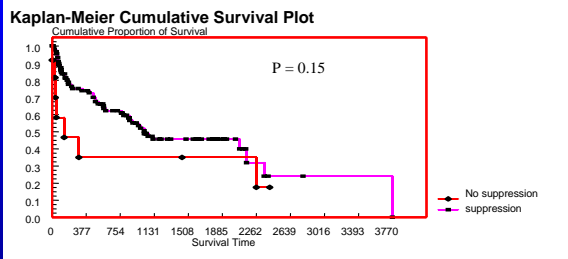
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## Joint Survival for 99 PJI Episodes Treated with Debridement and Retention 1995-99



Marculescu, et al., *CID* 2006;42:471-8

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## Debridement and Retention of Prosthesis Penicillin Susceptible Streptococcal PJI

- **Attempted:** 19/232 episodes (13 TKA, 6 THA)
- **Mean Sx:** 4 d (1-10 d)
- **Duration PJ:** Mean 1.5 yr (0.15-13 yr)
- **Organisms:** 6 Gr G, 7 Gr B, 4 viridans, 2 Gr A
- **Fever:** 13 (68%), bacteremia 4 (21%)
- **Rx:** IV – median 28 d (14-37)  $\beta$ -lactams, 8 long term oral Rx
- **Outcome:** No relapse 17/19 (89%) at median F/U 3.9 yr (0.3-21.8yr); failure - 2 Gr B strep – not on oral Rx (3.8, 6.8 m)

Meehan, et al., CID 2003; 36:845-849.

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## Rifampin Treatment of Orthopedic Implant Related Staphylococcal Infection – Randomized Trial\*

|                               | Cipro-Rifampin**   | Cipro-Placebo     |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Enrolled                      | 18                 | 15                |
| Onset < 2 mos after surg      | 12                 | 7                 |
| Success/treated               | 16/18              | 9/15              |
| Success/completed Rx          | 12/12 (35 mos f/u) | 7/12 (33 mos f/u) |
| Success retreated             | 5/7                | 1/2               |
| Resistance emerged (Cipro)    |                    | 4/5               |
| Median days infection (range) | 5 (0-19)           | 4 (0-21)          |

\*Early post-op or hematogenous infection, device stable

\*\*2 wks parenteral combination therapy, then cipro 750 mg q 12 h, rifampin 450 mg q 12 h for 3 (hips) to 6 (knees) months

Zimmerli, et al., JAMA 1998; 279:1537

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## Treatment for Salvage of Staphylococcal Infected Orthopedic Device (PJI)

- Select appropriate patient
- Although data is largely from regimens using a quinolone, reasonable to use other antistaphylococcal agents (  $\beta$ -lactam, TMP/SMZ, linezolid, fusidic acid)
- Rifampin is an important part of regimen for staphylococcal infections
- Reduce bacterial burden to avoid emergence of rifampin resistance
- Long courses of rx have been used, monitor for toxicity:  $\geq$ 3 months (3hips,6 months knees)

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## Clinical and Cost Effectiveness of Two-stage exchange vs. Debridement and Retention for THA infection in the Elderly

- A Markov model was used to simulate patients' projected lifetime clinical course in hypothetical cohorts of 65-year-old and frail 80-year-old men and women.
- Initial debridement and retention increased life expectancy 2.2-2.6 quality-adjusted life months and had a favorable cost-effectiveness ratio in all cohorts.
- Results were most sensitive to the annual rate of relapse after debridement and age at initial diagnosis of infection.
- **In the absence of prospective clinical trials, debridement and retention is a reasonable strategy for treatment of older persons with staphylococcal or streptococcal infection and a non-loosened prosthesis.**

Fisman DN, Reilly DT, Karchmer AW, Goldie SJ. *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. 32(3):419-30, 2001.

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## Treatment of Prosthetic Joint Infection According to Current Recommendations

- 68 episodes: 6 early, 30 delayed, 32 late
- 39/68 (57%) success at 2 yrs F/U
- Risk for treatment failure:

| Variable               | Hazard Ratio (CI, 95%) | P       |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Age                    | 1.03 (0.99-1.1)        | 0.12    |
| Charlson score         | 1.09 (0.89-1.3)        | 0.42    |
| Duration of Sx         | 1.87 (0.66-5.3)        | 0.14    |
| Infection score (mean) | 1.29 (1.1-1.4)         | <0.001* |
| Sinus tract            | 2.35 (1.1-5.0)         | 0.02    |
| Inadequate antibiotics | 3.45 (1.5-7.6)         | 0.002*  |
| Surgical strategy      | 2.34 (1.1-4.7)         | 0.01*   |

\*Significant in Cox regression analysis  
Bertsch, et al., CID 2008; 46:1221-1226.

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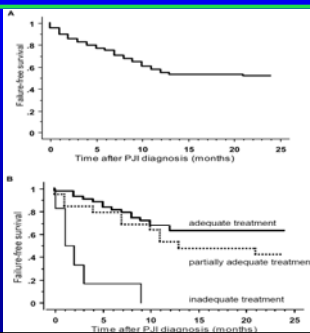
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## Proportion of Patients whose Prosthesis Remained Infection Free



← All patients

← Patients by Treatment Group

Bertsch et al.  
CID 46(8):1221-1226

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