

PO-0192 WITHDRAWN

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PO-0194 **THE CLINICAL IMPACT OF POSITIVE BLOOD CULTURE RESULTS IN A DISTRICT GENERAL PAEDIATRIC UNIT**

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**Background and aims** Blood cultures are taken to detect bacteraemia and direct antimicrobial therapy. Uncertainty regarding contamination versus bacteraemia leads to financial and human cost through increased investigations and prolonged antimicrobial therapy<sup>1</sup>. Contamination may be due to inadequate aseptic technique, with rates up to 10%<sup>2</sup>.

This audit aims to establish bacteraemia rates, contamination rates and review if positive blood cultures change clinical management.

**Methods** A retrospective list of all paediatric blood cultures collected between 7/8/13–7/12/13 was compiled and case-notes of positive results reviewed using a designated proforma.

Contamination was suspected with multiple organisms, particularly if skin flora, exclusively aerobic/anaerobic isolates and reassuring inflammatory markers or clinical condition.

**Results**

339 blood cultures were taken, 19 were positive.

47% of positive results occurred in patients <1 year old.

The main indication was pyrexia (63%)

42% of cultures were collected on the ward

Documented aseptic non-touch technique in 1 case (5%)

Antibiotics were administered before collection in 10%

68% of positive results were felt to be contaminants

Our bacteraemia rate is calculated as 1.76%.

37% of all positive cultures were repeated including three of six confirmed bacteraemia cases.

A positive culture result altered clinical management in 32%.

**Conclusions** Bacteraemia rates are low at 1.76%. However, there is still a significant contamination rate of 68%, especially in infants where aseptic procedures are difficult. Our results confirm that a blood culture result in isolation is of limited value and clinical correlation is paramount.

**REFERENCES**

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PO-0195 **A PROSPECTIVE STUDY OF DENGUE FEVER PRESENTATION IN A CHILD COHORT**

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**Background** Dengue fever (DF) infects between 50 and 100 million people each year. Local DF transmission was first reported

in Europe in 2010 and WHO now warns of a possible DF outbreak in Europe.

DF is usually self-limiting in the population (overall mortality rate of <1%.) However, 90% of patients with dengue haemorrhagic fever (severe dengue) are under 15 years old. The initial presentation of both is similar in children. Mortality rate in severe dengue is 2.5%.

**Aim** To describe DF presentation in a child cohort

**Method** During an 8 week period, data were collected for 19 children diagnosed with DF and included demography, previous dengue infection, clinical presentation and time interval between symptom onset and admission.

**Results** All children with DF were under 15 years old. None had previous episodes, complications or progression to dengue haemorrhagic fever. 74% of children were living in red flagged areas when symptoms occurred. Close contacts with a recent DF diagnosis were identified in 37%. Pyrexia was a first symptom in 84%. Other symptoms included rashes (42%), cough (37%), loss of appetite (37%), vomiting (37%), dizziness (37%) and headache (37%), as well as 14 other symptoms of lower frequency. An average of 5 days separated initial symptoms and admission.

**Conclusion** In considering differential diagnosis in children presenting in Europe with non-specific symptoms such as those found in this study, the possibility of DF should not be omitted. A travel and contact history is even more important if this potentially serious infection is to be recognised.

PO-0196 **EVOLUTION OF INFECTIONS IN FOUR CACHECTIC CHILDREN. CASE REPORTS**

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We can diagnose cachexy in children whose BMI is <5 percentiles and under 3-rd negative deviation. The aetiology of poor state of nutrition can be: incorrect feeding, frequent infections, congenital defects, improper care or a combination of the previous situations.

Authors present four cachectic patients: two children suffering of trisomy 21, who had associated each one heart malformation: first, a boy, N. S., aged 7 and weighting 12 Kg had Fallot tetralogy and bacterial endocarditis; second, a girl, P. S, 43 months aged, weighting 10 Kg, had ventricular septal defect and acute interstitial pneumonia. The third cachectic patient was a girl aged 8, weighting 13 kg, D. C. with Seckel syndrome, admitted for staphylococcal pneumonia; the fourth is a 11 years girl weighting 12 Kg, P. D. with spastic tetraparesis, microcephaly, diagnosed with severe sepsis.

Only the boy suffering of endocarditis, evaluated to MODS and death; the three girls were discharged healed. Trisomy 21 caused immunodeficiency and cachexy also permitted severe infections. The boy had severe hypoxia, but girls had a normal oxygen saturation. The aetiology of poor state of nutrition was combined: congenital defects, improper diet, frequent infections, inadequate care (three patients lived in orphanage, a girl had only mother). Pneumonia is frequent in thin children, with birth malformations. Congenital heart defects could be complicated to endocarditis.

Cachexy in malformed children is an important cause of immunodeficiency which leads to severe, sometimes letal infections. Infections produce denutrition and cachexy promotes severe sepsis, especially in parentless children.