



Antibiotic Therapy in Implant Related Orthopedic Infections

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Total joint replacement (TJR) has been one of the most successful surgical interventions in recent decades; millions of implants each year provide relief to millions of disabled patients. However, complications may occur, among which bacterial infection is considered the most difficult to treat. Given the estimated 1.0% to 2.5% annual incidence of PJI after TJR, prosthetic joint infection (PJI) continues to pose a challenge and place a substantial burden on patients, surgeons, and the healthcare system. Diagnosis is not always straightforward and in chronic cases requires combination of different diagnostic tools. Usually, some kind of surgical intervention is unavoidable, whereas revisions may be implant-sparing in early infection but may become very complex in chronic ones. Meanwhile, it has become widely accepted that at least chronic cases (persisting for longer than 6 weeks) are mediated by biofilms, which cannot be eradicated with conventional antibiotic therapy. Removal of the implant is mandatory for cure, whereas there is ongoing debate around whether re-implantation should be executed in a single- or multiple-stage approach.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

There are very few fields that attract as much attention as scientific endeavor related to antibiotic discovery, use and preservation. The public, patients, scientists, clinicians, policy-makers, NGOs, governments, and supra-governmental organizations are all focusing intensively on it: all are concerned that we use our existing agents more effectively, and develop and evaluate new interventions in time to face emerging challenges for the benefit of present and future generations. We need every discipline to contribute and collaborate: molecular, microbiological, clinical, epidemiological, geographic, economic, social scientific and policy disciplines are all key. *Antibiotics* is a nimble, inclusive and rigorous indexed journal as an enabling platform for all who can contribute to solving the greatest broad concerns of the modern world.

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