

Septic Arthritis in Children Questionnaire

1. Which hospital do you work at?

Completed on behalf of Hywel Dda University Health Board

2. How many paediatric patients with septic arthritis does your hospital manage in a year?

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3. Does your department have a written guideline for the investigation and management of potential septic arthritis in children?

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Yes | |
| No | x |
| Verbal Only | |

4. Where is your guideline taken from? (For example, BSCOS, locally derived guideline etc.)

Guidance taken from local microbiology department

5. When septic arthritis is a differential diagnosis, which imaging modalities are routinely requested?

Please specify:

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------------|---|
| Plain film radiographs of the joint | X | Ultrasound | X |
| MRI | X | Other (please specify) | |

6. When the diagnosis is unclear, what additional imaging is requested?

Please specify:

Aspiration

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| MRI | | Ultrasound | |
| No additional imaging requested | | Other (please specify) | X |

7. Do you have the facilities in your hospital to perform an MRI scan under general anaesthetic or sedation, if required?

| | | | |
|-----|--|----|---|
| Yes | | No | X |
|-----|--|----|---|

8. If aspiration is indicated, in which clinical area is aspiration performed?

Please specify:

Emergency Department

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Admissions Unit / Inpatient Ward | |
| Operating Theatre | X |
| Radiology Department | |
| Other (please specify) | |

Please specify:

9. What form of anaesthesia is most commonly used for the joint aspiration?

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Procedural sedation and analgesia | |
| Local anaesthetic | |
| General anaesthetic | X |

10. Which specialty is responsible for the initial aspiration of the joint?

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Emergency Medicine | | Trauma and Orthopaedics | X | Other (please specify) | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------------|---|------------------------|--|

11. Are any of the following investigations included in your paediatric guideline?

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Serum Procalcitonin (PCT) | |
| Synovasure Alpha Defencin test | |

12. Which antibiotic is used as the first-line treatment, assuming the patient has no drug allergies?

Flucloxacillin

13. What is the first-line antibiotic when the patient has a known allergy to penicillin?

Advice taken from Microbiology on case by case basis

14. Under which specialty are patients with septic arthritis initially admitted?

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Emergency Department | |
| Trauma and Orthopaedics | X |
| Paediatrics | |
| Rheumatology | |
| Other (please specify) | |

Please specify:

15. What is your initial management of septic arthritis in children, excluding the hip joint?

| | |
|---|--|
| IV antibiotics only | |
| Initial aspiration followed by IV antibiotics | |
| Serial aspiration | |
| Joint washed-out arthroscopically | |
| Open wash-out | |

16. What is your initial management of septic arthritis of the hip joint in children?

| | |
|---|---|
| IV antibiotics only | |
| Initial aspiration followed by IV antibiotics | |
| Serial aspiration | |
| Joint washed-out arthroscopically | X |

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Open wash-out | |
|---------------|--|

17. In your department, is adjuvant corticosteroid therapy routinely used in the treatment of septic arthritis?

| | | | |
|-----|--|----|---|
| Yes | | No | X |
|-----|--|----|---|

18. Is there a mechanism in your hospital (e.g. audit process) whereby missed cases of septic arthritis (or delayed diagnosis) are collected, for example, by examining readmission data?

| | | | |
|-----|---|----|--|
| Yes | X | No | |
|-----|---|----|--|

19. If so, please specify:

Audits are undertaken by the internal audit department.

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|-----------------|
| Please specify: |
|-----------------|