

Septic Arthritis in Adults Questionnaire

1. Which hospital do you work at?

Completed on behalf of Hywel Dda University Health Board

2. How many adult patients with septic arthritis does your hospital manage in a month?

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

Yes	
No	x
Verbal Only	

4. Where is your guideline taken from? (For example, BSR, local guideline etc.)

N/A

5. When septic arthritis is a differential diagnosis, what imaging is routinely requested?

Plain film radiographs of the joint	x
CT	
MRI	
Ultrasound	
Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

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

CT	
MRI	x
Ultrasound	x
No additional imaging requested	
Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

7. In a **native** joint, excluding the hip, where is joint aspiration commonly performed?

Please specify:

Emergency Department	x
Admissions Unit / Inpatient Ward	
Operating Theatre	
Radiology Department	
Other (please specify)	

8. In suspected septic arthritis of the hip joint, where is joint aspiration commonly performed?

Please specify:

Emergency Department	
Admissions Unit / Inpatient Ward	
Operating Theatre	x
Radiology Department	
Other (please specify)	

9. Which specialty is responsible for the initial aspiration of **native** joints, excluding the hip?

Emergency Medicine		Rheumatology	
Trauma and Orthopaedics	x	Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

10. If different, which specialty is responsible for aspiration of the hip joint?

Emergency Medicine		Rheumatology	
Trauma and Orthopaedics	x	Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

11. Are any of the following investigations included in your **native** joint guideline?

Serum Procalcitonin (PCT)	
Synovasure Alpha Defencin test	

12. Are any of the following investigations included in your **prosthetic** joint guideline?

Serum Procalcitonin (PCT)	
Synovasure Alpha Defencin test	

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

Advice will be sought on a case by case basis from Microbiology

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

Advice will be sought on a case by case basis from Microbiology

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

Emergency Department		Rheumatology	
Trauma and Orthopaedics	x	Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

16. If any, what is your first-line invasive treatment?

Please specify:

Joint aspirated to dryness, as often as necessary	
Joint washed-out arthroscopically	x
Joint taken to theatre for open debridement	
Other (please specify)	

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

Yes		No	x
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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	
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19. If so, please specify:

Would be identified and discussed and mortality and morbidity meetings.

Please specify: