

Dorset County Hospital



NHS Foundation Trust

Clinical Audit Report

**Project Title: Post-operative infection rates following day case foot and ankle surgery –
re audit**

Specialty/service: Orthopaedic surgery

Division: Surgery

Audit Registration Number: 4957

Project Team	Name	Grade	Contact Number
1.	Mr Nicolas Savva	Consultant	
2.	Dr Robert Clowes	FY1	Bleep 231
3.	Dr Jonas Schwenck	SHO	Bleep 451

Specialities Involved: Orthopaedic surgery

Data Collection Period: 01/06/2018 – 01/06/2019

Date Audit Submitted: 16/03/2020

Clinical audit report

Background/rationale

- Previous audits of Mr Savva showed acceptable rates
 - 2008-09 (0.89%) and 2010-11 (2.6%)
- Re-audit to review current practice and confirm acceptable standards continue to be maintained.

Aim/ Objectives

- Assess rates of infection following day case foot and ankle surgery

Standards/guidelines/evidence base

- National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines for Surgical site infection (SSI) state at least 5% of patients will suffer a postoperative infection following surgery
- Within clean elective foot and ankle surgery the accepted rate of SSI quoted in the literature ranges between 0.26 to 2% (Maher AJ, 2017).
- PASCOM-10 database is used within the Podiatric Medicine profession to audit clinical performance, practice and outcomes. Statistics reported from the database across 75 centres from 2010 to 2014 yielded an infection rate of 2.34% (suspected) and 0.67% (proven) in 11,673 patients undergoing scarf osteotomies with internal fixation.

Sample

All

Audit type

Retrospective re-audit

Methodology – including data collection methods

- Identified all patients undergoing day case foot and ankle surgery at Dorset county hospital (DCH) and Weymouth Hospital under the care of Mr Savva from 01/06/2018 – 01/06/2019
- Microbiology reports of each patient reviewed via ICE
- Clinic letters of each patient reviewed via DPR
- Positive swab cases were reviewed with lead clinician to assess true infection rates

Exceptions

- 10 excluded due to trauma related non-day case operations

Key findings

- 130 patients identified day-case foot and ankle surgery during the 12 month period
- 10 excluded due to trauma related non day case surgeries
- Four swabs sent post-operatively
- One positive case identified, removal of metal work following previous superficial infection

- Swab positive for Staphylococcus aureus

Period of study	12 months (June 2018-June 2019)
Number of patients	120
Positive cultures	1
Infection rate	0.8%

Key conclusions

- Infection rate (0.8%) within acceptable limits
- Continue current practice

Discussion

No universally accepted rates of infection following day case foot and ankle surgery exist. The accepted rate of foot and ankle surgery varies anywhere from 0.26-2%. It is the aspiration of every unit to achieve the lowest possible infection rates. Current best practice as detailed by NICE updated in 2019, includes: information for patients and carers, pre-op screening for MRSA, surgery in laminar air flow theatres, appropriate pre-operative prophylactic antibiotics and suitable wound closure techniques. The infection rates in this audit are similar to those reported in literature and below the suggested SSI rate as stated by NICE.

Recommendations

Continue current practice.

Incorporate SMART (Specific Measurable Achievable Realistic Timely) principles in all recommendations.

How does this audit improve patient care?

This audit demonstrates that patients are receiving appropriate care.

Learning points

In keeping with recent literature, infections rates among patients undergoing day case foot and ankle surgery are lower than what is generally believed.

Appendix:

Please attach the data collection tool.

Project Number:

KEY (Change status)

- 1 Not yet actioned
- 2 In Progress
- 3 Completed
- 4 Escalated

Clinical Audit Action Plan

Project title	<input style="width: 80%;" type="text"/>
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Action plan lead	<input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Title: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>	Contact: <input style="width: 95%;" type="text"/>
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Ensure that the recommendations detailed in the action plan mirror those recorded in the “Recommendations” section of the report. These should be agreed with the Project Lead.

The “Actions required” should specifically state what needs to be done to achieve the recommendation. All updates to the action plan should be included in the “Comments” section.

Re-audit should not be listed as a recommendation

Recommendation	Actions required <i>(specify “None”, if none required)</i>	Action by date	Person responsible <i>(Name and grade)</i>	Comments/action status <i>(Provide examples of action in progress, changes in practices, problems encountered in facilitating change, reasons why recommendation has not been actioned etc)</i>	Change stage <i>(see Key)</i>
1.					
2.					