

DELAYED DIAGNOSIS AND HIGH SURGICAL BURDEN IN RAPIDLY GROWING MYCOBACTERIAL PERIPROSTHETIC JOINT INFECTION: LESSONS FROM A SINGLE-CENTRE COHORT

Dr Aditya Menon · Dr Vikas Agashe · Dr Vivek Shetty · Dr Ayesha Sunavala · Dr Umang Agrawal · Dr Camilla Rodrigues · Dr Shaoli Basu · Dr Astha Bijwe
P. D. HINDUJA HOSPITAL & MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTRE · MUMBAI · INDIA

10

NTM PJI cases

190

days mean delay

70%

failed prior surgery

80%

remission at 13mo

INTRODUCTION

- NTM: an emerging, under-recognised cause of PJI
- No standard diagnostic pathway · often missed on first work-up
- Aim:** diagnostic delay, prior treatment failure, microbiology and surgical burden in NTM PJI

METHODS

- Retrospective cohort · **Oct 2022–Jan 2025**
- Confirmed NTM PJI after hip/knee arthroplasty
- Median follow-up **13 months**

CASE PROFILE (N=10)

66

Median age (yrs)

3

Median procedures

9/10

Two-stage revision

- NTM **not identified** before referral in any case
- Procedures range 2–5 · inter-stage interval **9.5 months** (IQR 6.5–12)



MICROBIOLOGY

- Rapidly growing mycobacteria **90%** · **M. abscessus 60%**
- Concomitant bacterial infection in **40%**

ANTIMICROBIAL SUSCEPTIBILITY · % ISOLATES SUSCEPTIBLE



TREATMENT & OUTCOMES

- Median therapy duration **26 weeks** · modified in **50%** (intolerance)

8

Remission 80%

1

Amputation 10%

1

Recurrence 10%

CONCLUSIONS

- NTM PJI — frequently missed, repeated failed surgery
- Suspect in culture-negative / atypical PJI with prior failed debridement
- Early mycobacterial-specific testing + specialist care = **good remission**

REFERENCES

- Maimaiti Z, Li Z, Xu C, et al. Non-tuberculosis mycobacterium periprosthetic joint infections following total hip and knee arthroplasty: case series and review of the literature. *Orthop Surg*. 2023;15(6):1488–1497.
- Damronglerd P, Higgins E, Fida M, et al. Characteristics and management of periprosthetic joint infections caused by rapidly growing mycobacteria. *J Bone Jt Infect*. 2024;9(1):99–106.
- McNally M, Sousa R, Wouthuyzen-Bakker M, et al. The EBJIS definition of periprosthetic joint infection. *Bone Joint J*. 2021;103-B(1):18–25.

TAKE-HOME MESSAGE

Suspect NTM in culture-negative, atypical PJI — early diagnosis avoids repeated failed surgery and drives **80% remission**