

Most frequent bacterial isolates in diabetic foot infections in diabetic patients treated in diabetic foot clinic at Medical University in Gdańsk in 2008

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In the year 2008 72 patients with suspected infection of foot ulcer were referred to Diabetic Foot Clinic. In 67 of them infection was diagnosed on clinical grounds and 53 specimen (tissue sample from the wound base or courettage) were sent for culture. 12 patients were previously hospitalized on surgical wards. 10 patients referred from the community have already been on antibiotics. Out of 53 specimen 47 (88%) were positive. 24 pathogens were isolated. The dominant isolates were Gram positive cocci namely Staph. aureus which was isolated in 16 (47%) cases, Gram negative rods: Enterobacter cloacae in 13 (27,6%) cases and Proteus mirabilis in 9 (19%) cases as well as Escherichia coli in 8 specimen. Anaerobes were found in 12 samples (9 of which were from clinically ischaemic patients and 4 patients had deep infection). In one sample Candida sp was found but was regarded as contamination. Most of the wounds were polymicrobial which correlated with the wound duration, previous antibiotic treatment and with the severity of infection. Mean number of pathogens per specimen was 2.3. In 39 patients (89,9%) with clinical signs of infection and positive culture results ESR and CRP were raised but WBC count was variable. None of the patients was pyrexial. No resistant bacteria such as MRSA or CRPA were found which might be due to the rare use of antibiotics especially wide spectrum for diabetic foot infection in Poland (mainly in the community) but also to the very restrictive policy (especially isolation) applied in the recent years to patients with diagnosed MRSA infection or colonization.