

## Septic Arthritis in Adults Questionnaire

1. Which hospital do you work at?

County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust

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

2-3

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

Yes	x
No	
Verbal Only	

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

local

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?

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

Please specify:

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

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

Please specify:

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

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

Please specify:

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

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

Please specify:

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

Serum Procalcitonin (PCT)	no
Synovasure Alpha Defencin test	no

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

Serum Procalcitonin (PCT)	no
Synovasure Alpha Defencin test	no

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

Flucloxacillin and Rifampin

Penicillin allergic – discussed with microbiology (as are all cases of septic arthritis)

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

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

Please specify:

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

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

Please specify: this depends on joint usually arthroscopic unless hip which would be open

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

Yes  No

17. 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  No

18. If so, please specify: any missed cases later identified are discussed at monthly M&M meeting

Please specify : N/A