

Oral Abstracts

Key Session 9

[O112] ORTHOPAEDIC DEVICE RELATED INFECTION: TIME FOR A CULTURE CHANGE?

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Microbiology plays a pivotal role in the diagnosis of prosthetic joint infections (PJI), and in determining the infectious aetiology of PJI to guide individualized antimicrobial therapy. However bacterial culture is imperfectly sensitive in clinical practice, sample contamination limits culture specificity, and rigorous evaluation of both sensitivity and specificity is made challenging by the lack of a robust reference standard for PJI diagnosis.

Underpinned by a better understanding of the pathobiology, progress has nevertheless been made in improving microbiological diagnosis of PJI. We review the effects of optimized tissue sampling, sonication of explanted prostheses, and culture methodology on PJI diagnosis.