

Supplementary Table S1. Septic arthritis with isolated organism between 2016 through 2019. Comparison between two pathogenetic subgroups: direct inoculation group^a and hematogenous group.

	18–64 years	65–79 years	80 years and above
Septic arthritis due to direct inoculation (<i>n</i> = 54) number (%)	36 (67)	11 (20)	7 (13)
Hematogenous septic arthritis (<i>n</i> = 216) number (%)	78 (36)	85 (39)	53 (25)

^a Postoperative within 3 months, septic arthritis one to two weeks after intraarticular injection, trauma or bite at the affected joint.

Supplementary Table S2. Demographics and comparison between group of patients where SF-WBC was analysed and group of patients where SF-WBC was missing.

Parameter	SF-WBC is analysed (<i>n</i> = 74)	SF-WBC is missing (<i>n</i> = 142)	<i>p</i> -value
Male (%)	41 (55)	84 (59)	NS
Hospitalization days median (range)	19 (1–80)	16 (1–67)	NS
Mortality within 30 days (%)	3 (4)	8 (6)	NS
Osteosynthesis or prosthesis in affected joint	12 (16)	17 (12)	NS
Monoarthritis (%)	71 (96)	125 (88)	NS
Fever ≥ 37.5 Celsius (%)	43 (58)	71 (50)	NS
CRP mg/L mean (SD)	207 (119)	230 (134)	NS
Haemoglobin g/L mean (SD) <i>n</i> = 201	121 (19)	123 (20)	NS
WBC ×10 ⁹ /L mean (SD)	15 (19)	15 (17)	NS
Platelets ×10 ⁹ /L mean (SD)	280 (152)	239 (117)	NS
Creatinine μmol/L mean (SD)	126 (123)	128 (106)	NS

Supplementary Table S3. Comparison between demographics and characteristics of patients in the youngest age group, 18–64 years, divided into two new groups in order to analyze potential differences.

Parameter	18–30 years (<i>n</i> = 8)	31–64 years (<i>n</i> = 70)	<i>p</i> -value
Male (%)	5 (63)	39 (56)	NS
Hospitalization days median (range)	6 (1–14)	14 (2–80)	0.008
Mortality within 30 days (%)	0 (0)	0 (0)	NS
Fever ≥ 37.5 Celsius (%)	<i>n</i> = 7 4 (57)	<i>n</i> = 68 41 (60)	NS
CRP mg/L mean (SD)	74 (47)	209 (137)	0.004
Haemoglobin g/L mean (SD) <i>n</i> = 201	131 (16)	127 (19)	NS
WBC ×10 ⁹ /L mean (SD)	<i>n</i> =7 12 (5)	<i>n</i> =67 13 (7)	NS
Platelets ×10 ⁹ /L mean (SD)	<i>n</i> = 6 283 (164)	<i>n</i> = 60 278 (138)	NS
Creatinine μmol/L mean (SD)	<i>n</i> = 7 77 (17)	<i>n</i> = 62 112 (110)	NS
SF-WBC ×10 ⁹ /L mean (SD)	<i>n</i> = 4	<i>n</i> = 21	NS

	53 (55)	42 (30)	
Glucose ratio mmol/L mean (SD)	<i>n</i> = 3 0.33 (0.52)	<i>n</i> = 21 0.39 (0.29)	NS
SF-PMN/WBC ratio mean (SD)	<i>n</i> = 4 0.85 (0.03)	<i>n</i> = 20 0.88 (0.12)	NS
Obesity	0 (0)	14 (20)	NS

^aObesity is defined as BMI >30. Mann-Whitney U was used for mean and median. Fishers exact test was used for statistics on sex, mortality within 30 days, fever and obesity. NS; not significant.