

## Septic Arthritis in Adults Questionnaire

1. Which hospital do you work at?

Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

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

Approx 3 – 4 per month

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

Yes	
No	✓
Verbal Only	

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

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5. When septic arthritis is a differential diagnosis, what imaging is routinely requested?

Plain film radiographs of the joint	✓
CT	
MRI	✓
Ultrasound	
Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

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6. When the diagnosis is unclear, what additional imaging requested?

CT	
MRI	
Ultrasound	
No additional imaging requested	
Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

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7. In a **native** joint, excluding the hip, where is joint aspiration commonly performed?

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

Please specify:

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

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

Please specify:

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

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

Please specify:

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

Emergency Medicine		Rheumatology	
Trauma and Orthopaedics		Other (please specify)	

Please specify:

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

Serum Procalcitonin (PCT)	
Synovasure Alpha Defencin test	

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

Serum Procalcitonin (PCT)	
Synovasure Alpha Defencin test	

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

Flucloxacilin

14. What is the first-line antibiotic when the patient has a known allergy to penicillin?

Clindamycin

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

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

Please specify:

16. 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:

Hip joints for debridement

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

Yes		No	✓
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18. 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	v
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19. If so, please specify:

Please specify: