

# Infectious Complications during Bone Marrow Transplantation: our experience

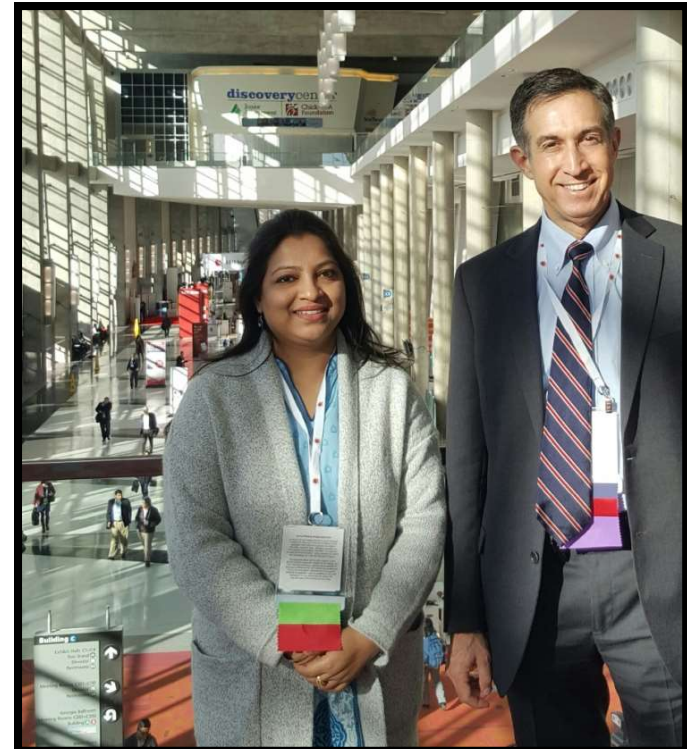
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**Dept of Hematology**  
**Dhaka Medical College Hospital**  
**Dhaka**



**BLOOD & MARROW TRANSPLANTATION**



No Conflict of disclosure





# 5 HSCT centres of Bangladesh

(Chronology According To Establishment)



**1 Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) 2014**



**2 Evercare Hospital Dhaka 2016**



**3 CMH Dhaka 2016**



**4. BSMMU 2018**



**5. Asgar A Hospital 2020**



## Centre wise Transplant activity

•Average age

39.4Y

( 15-69 Yrs)

•M:F=3:1

•MM=53

•NHL=41

•HL=27

•Others=07

•Allo HSCT =39

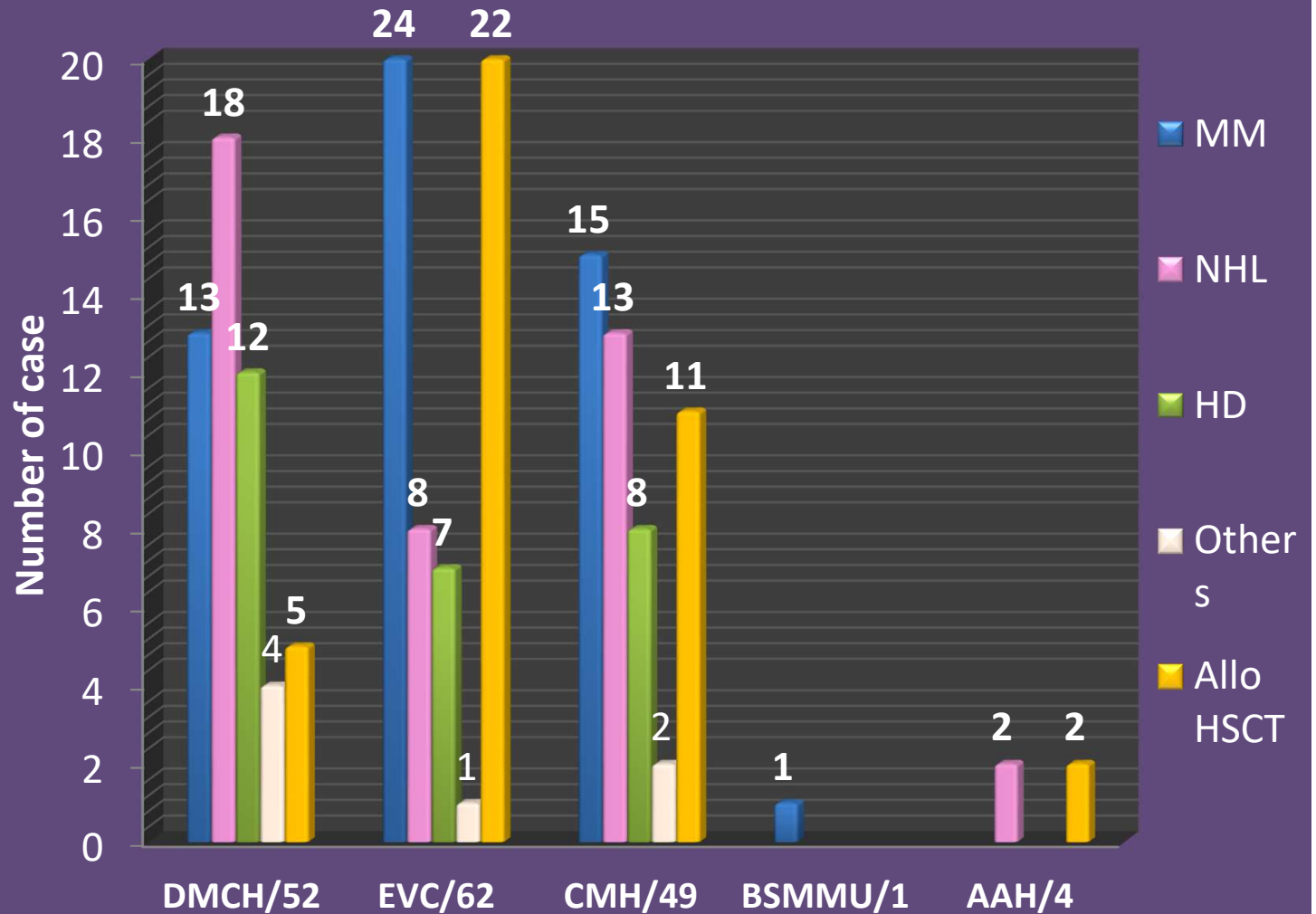
•Engraftment:

N D+11

Plt D+12

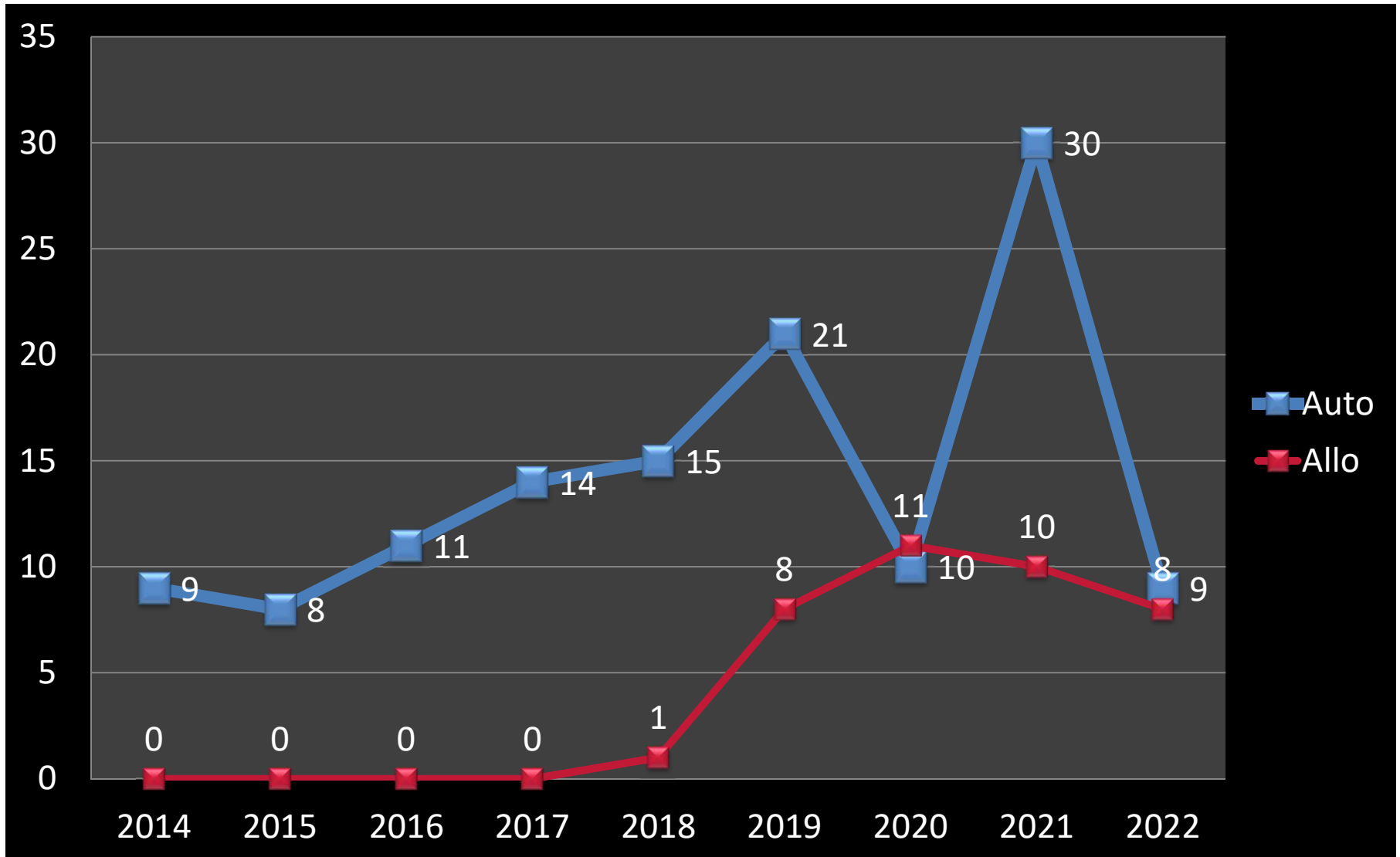
•TRM 0% in Auto

•TRM 15% in Allo



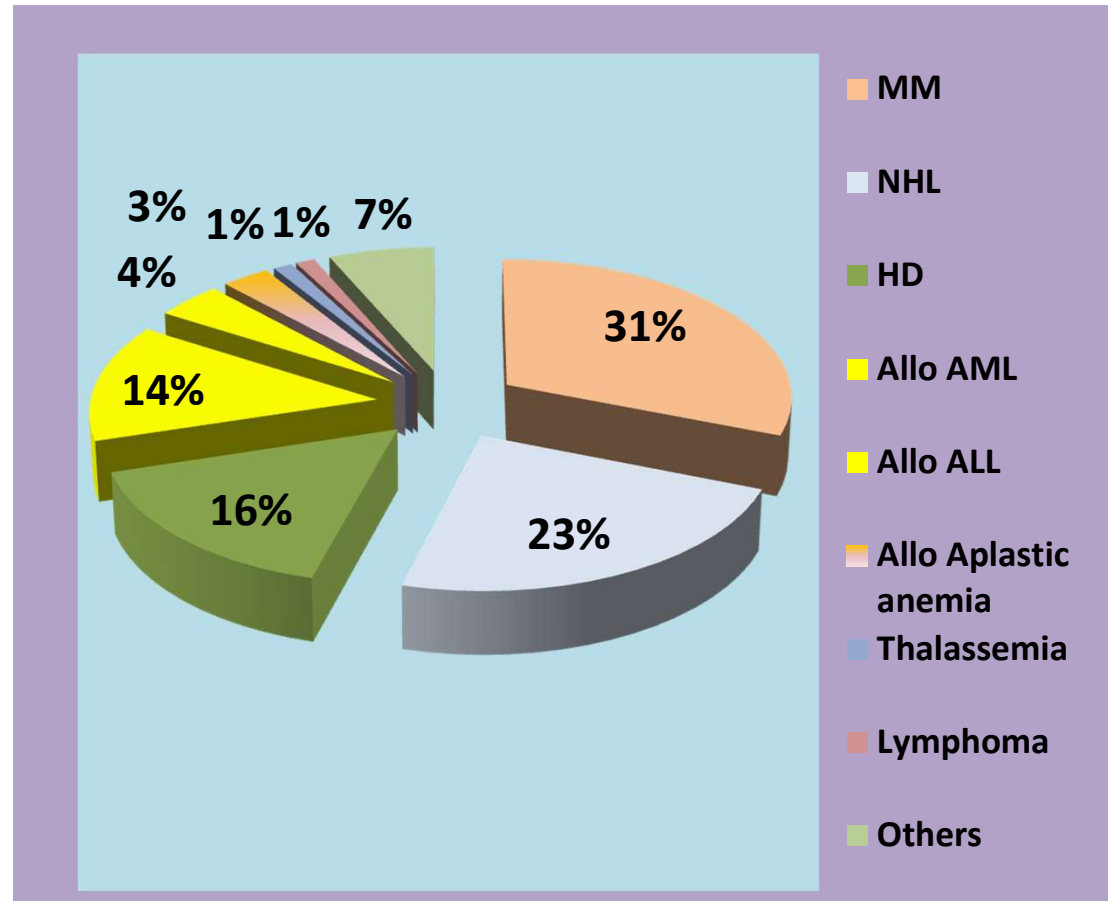
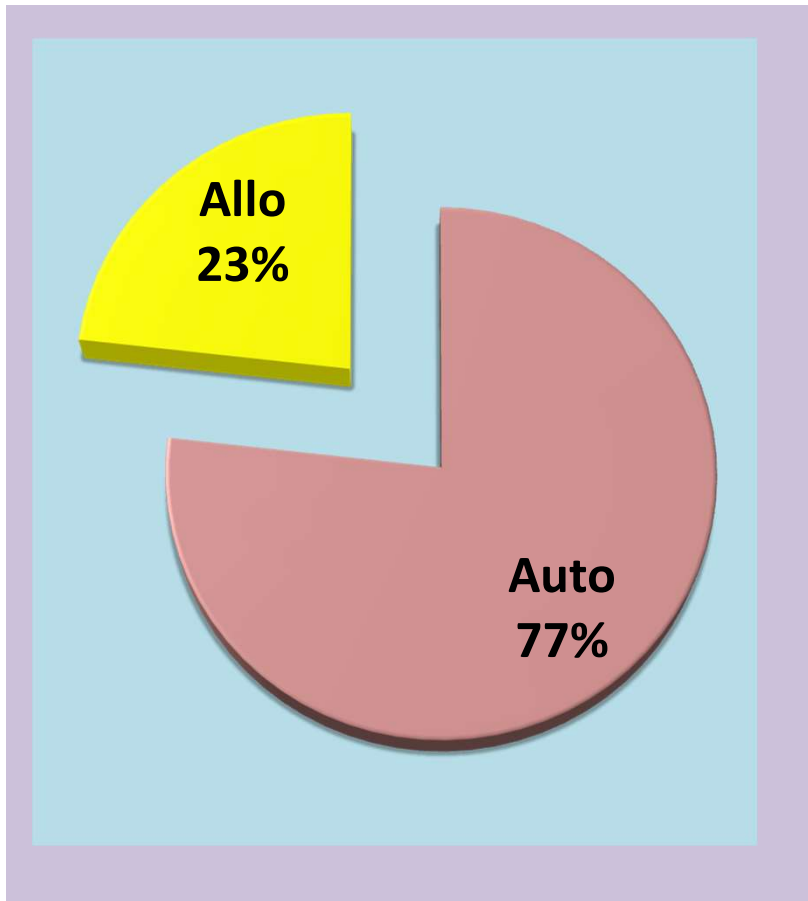


## Transplant activity by year in Bangladesh since 2014





## Overall Status of HSCT of Bangladesh (n=168, Auto =129, Allo =39)





# Complications of HSCT

## Autologous :

### ❖ Early : < 100 D

- **Infection**
- *Bleeding*
- *Organ toxicity*
- *Others*

### ❖ Late: > 100D

- *Relapse*
- **Infection**
- *Gonadal failure*
- *Secondary malignancy*
- *Organ toxicity*

## Allogeneic :

### ❖ Early :

- **Infection**
- *aGVHD*
- *Bleeding*
- *Organ toxicity*
- **Graft failure**
- *Others*

### ❖ Late: :

- *Ch GVHD*
- *Relapse*
- **Infection**
- *Gonadal failure*
- *Secondary malignancy*
- *Organ toxicity*

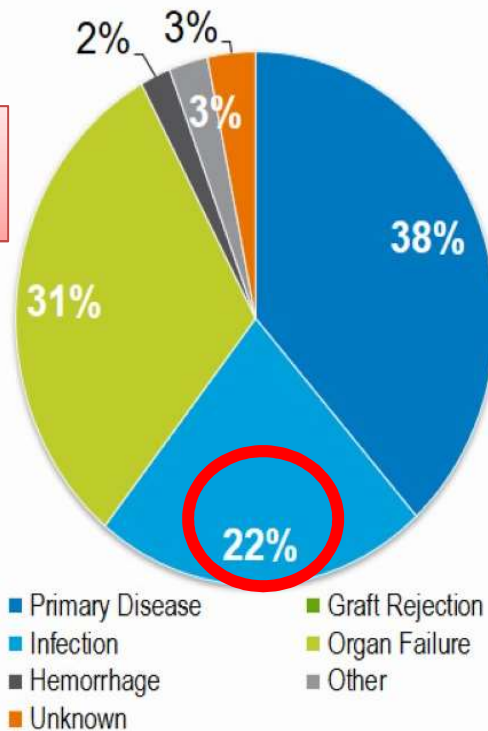




## Cause of early death >18 years with HSCT in 2018-19 in USA

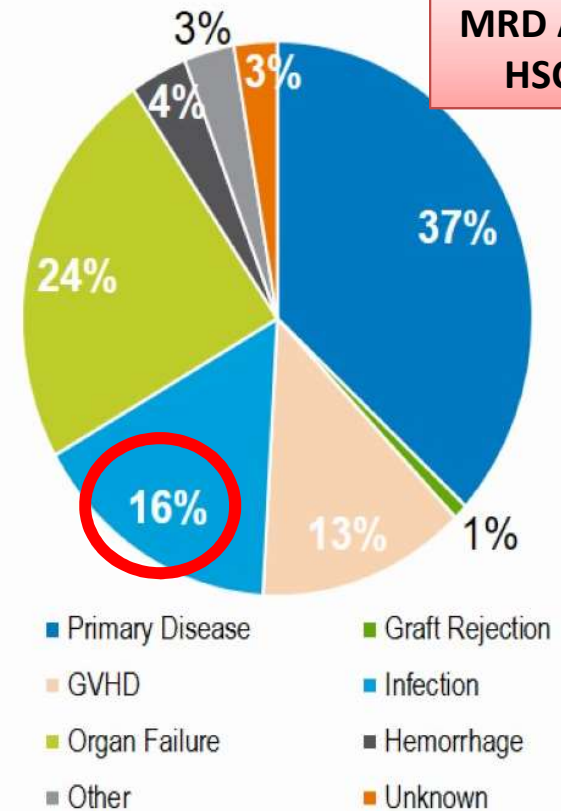
Died within 100 days post-transplant

Auto SCT



Died within 100 days post-transplant

MRD Allo-HSCT





# Timeline of transplant and infection

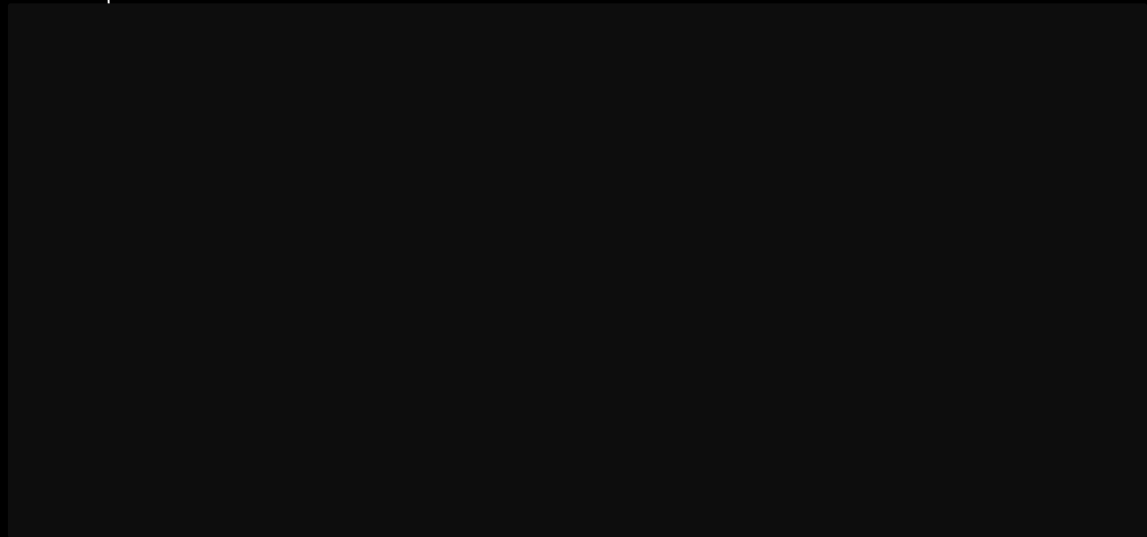
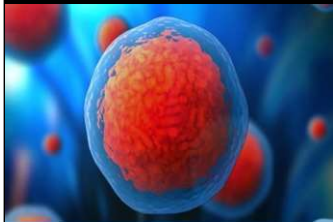
5 – 10  
Days  
Prior

Day 0

Weeks

Conditioning  
Period

Stem Cell  
Infusion



# Timeline of transplant and infection

Bacteria , Fungus, HSV etc

5 – 10  
Days  
Prior

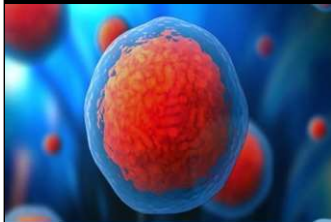
Day 0

Day 12 - 15

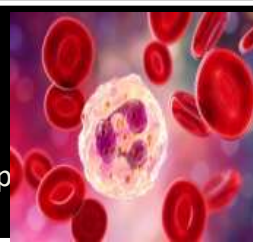
Day 20 ++

Conditioning  
Period

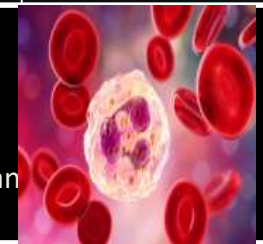
Stem Cell  
Infusion



Neutrophil  
Recovery  
(autologous transp



Neutrophil  
Recovery  
(allogenic transplan





# Timeline of transplant and infection

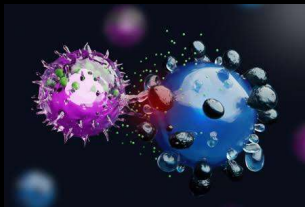
Aspergillous , CMV, HZV, EVB, Pneumocystis

Steroid, GVHD, Cyclosporine, Tacro

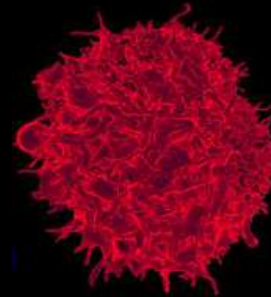
Weeks - Months

Months to years

NK Cell Recovery

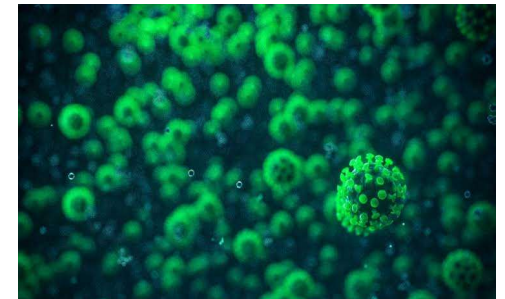
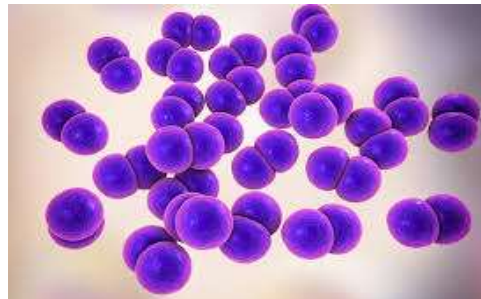
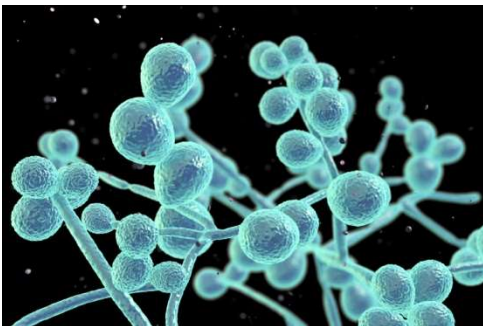
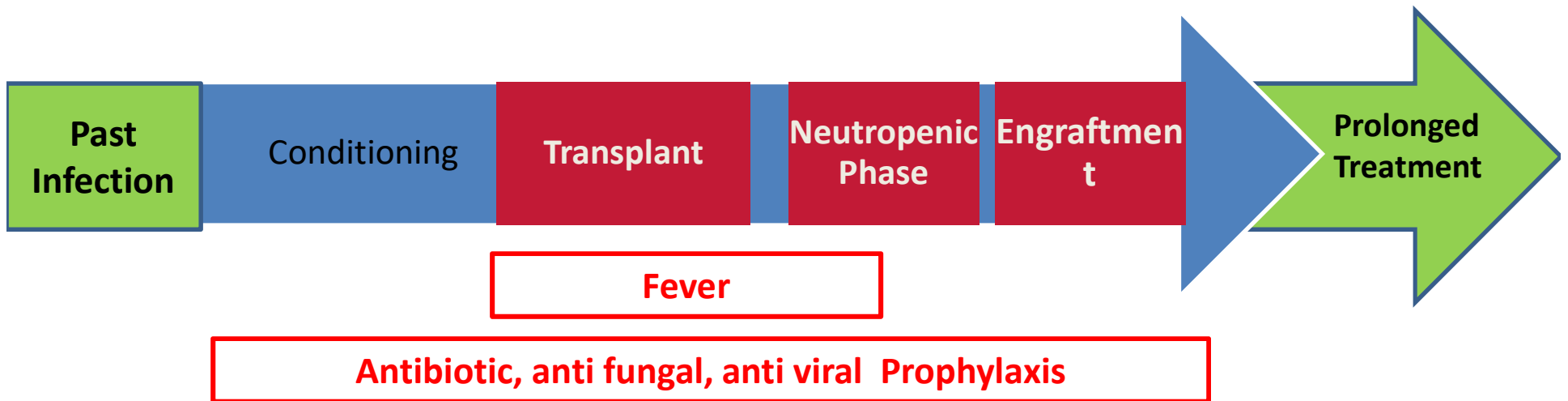


T – cell Recovery





# Timing of Antimicrobial Therapy Post - HSCT





# Case # 1

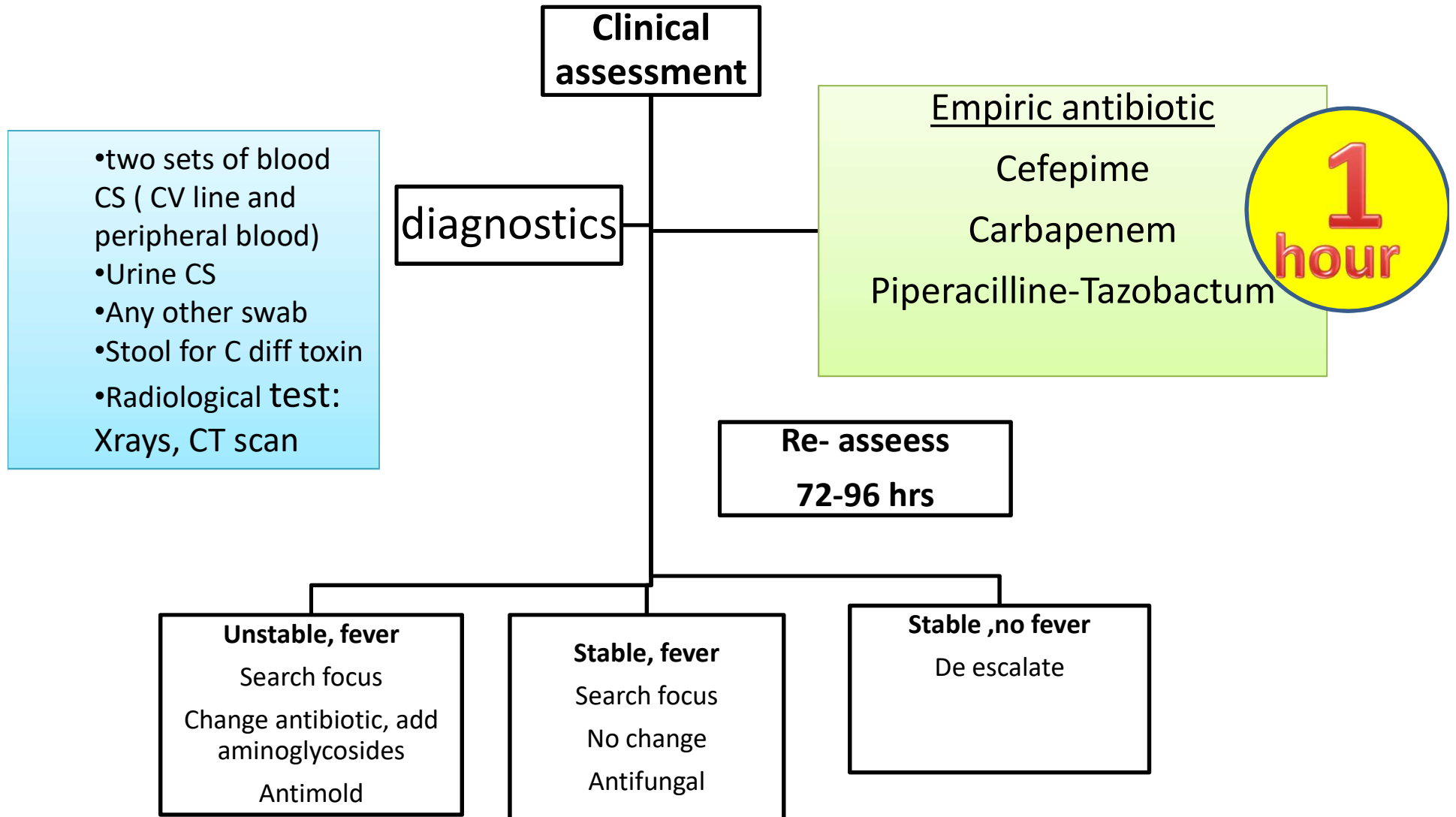
## Neutropenic sepsis

- An 19 year male > BEAM+Auto HSCT, for relapsed DLBCL> D0 uneventful>
- D+1 : abdominal cramp, tenderness+, oral & gut mucositis GI, loose stool 10 times/day. NO Fever> worsened to sepsis
- What to do now with antibiotic stewardship?





# Initial management of fever with neutropenia





## Early Antimicrobial De-escalation and Stewardship in Adult Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation Recipients: Retrospective Review

Matthew Snyder,<sup>1</sup> Yanina Pasikhova,<sup>1</sup> and Aliyah Baluch<sup>2</sup>

Departments of <sup>1</sup>Pharmacy and <sup>2</sup>Infectious Diseases, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, Florida

**Background.** Antimicrobial stewardship in allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (allo-HSCT) recipients remains underutilized in North America. European guidelines advise de-escalation of broad-spectrum therapy after 72 hours in select patients with neutropenic fever of unknown origin. This is not commonplace in the United States, as current guidelines recommend broad-spectrum therapy until neutrophil engraftment. If de-escalating after at least 5 days of broad-spectrum therapy and defervescence in neutropenic allo-HSCT recipients does not predispose them to recurrent fever or infection, the practice could afford several

### De –escalation strategy:

- upfront combination, targeting MDR> de-escalated if MDR is not detected.
- Whom: High risk for MDR
- Adv: Lower mortality
- Dis Adv: high abx pressure

### Escalation strategy:

- Start with monotherapy> then add 2nd
- Many patients
- Adv: less use, less toxicity
- Dis Adv: MDR , early death





# Algorithm for neutropenic patient in HSCT



## CASE 1: Neutropenic sepsis:

- responded well clinically with initial combination( Cefepime+ Vanc+ Metro)
- Blood, Urine, stool CS: No growth
- Stool for C diff: negative
- Kept on same antibiotic with de escalation gradually
- Engrafted on D+9
- Cured from lymphoma 9 years



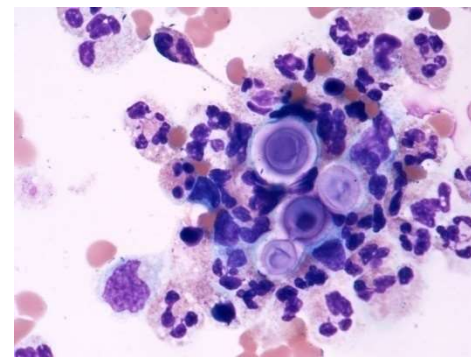
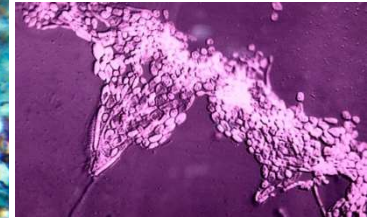
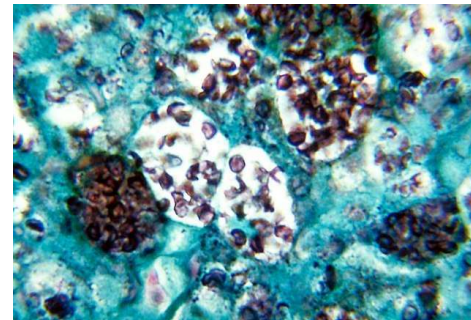
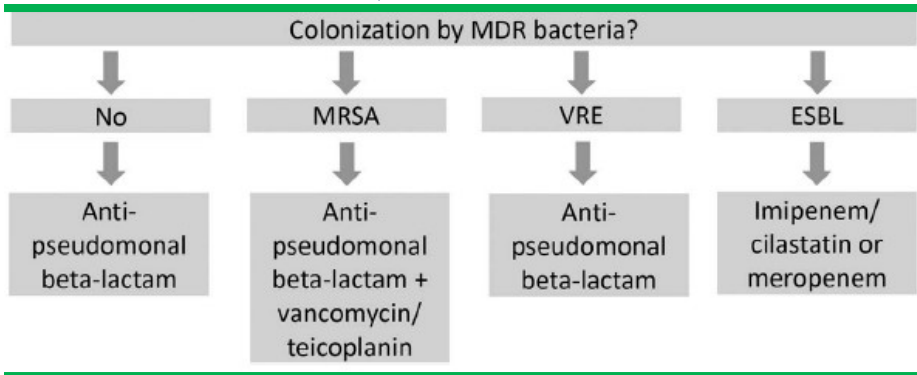
# Persistent fever !

**Unstable, fever > 72 hrs**

Search focus  
Change antibiotic, add  
aminoglycosides  
Antimold



**Invasive fungal infection?  
Broaden antifungal  
pre-emptive  
Or empirical**





## Case 2# Hematuria in AutoSCT Rare

- 49 Y male of rMM> **ASCT with HDM> on D+6 red urine** /frank blood, dysuria, urgency, frequency, hesitancy
- Mild loin pain & fever & neutropenia
- **Platelet: 60K**
- Coagulation work up :N
- work up for infection: negative
- renal function: WNL
- Antibiotics & supportive care
- Transfusion of platelet & RCC
- **Red urine continued> Hemorrhagic cystitis**

**CMV Virus load  
in urine**



## Case #2 issue: HC due to CMV

- 49 Y male of rMM> ASCT with HDM> on D+6 red urine /frank blood, dysuria, urgency, frequency, hesitency
- Mild loin pain & fever>
- Platelet: 60K
- Coagulation work up :N
- work up for infection: negative
- renal function: WNL
- Antibiotics & supportive care
- Transfusion RCC, Plt
- Red urine continued
- Bladder irrigation
- Still red urine, dysuria>
- Engraftment on D+8 & D+11
- Viral work up from urine
- **CMV Ag + in Urine by PCR on D+13**
- **Gancyclovir added**
- CMV titre reduced in urine
- CMV neg D+25
- Patient is still in CR with good QoL.



## Post HSCT Viral infection

### Reactivation:

- CMV
- HSV
- HHV-6, HHV-7, HHV-8
- EBV
- VZV
- BK V

### Sporadic:

- Adenovirus
- Influenza V, ParaInfluenza
- Hepatitis V
- Noro Virus
- COVID 19

### CMV:

- Most significant infection
- TBI, MAC, chGVHD
- **Pneumonia, enteritis, hepatitis, retinitis, encephalitis**
- CMV pneumonia: 10-30% AlloHSCT
- CMV end organ disease : 80% in CBT
- Therapy:
  - Gancyclovir
  - Valgancyclovir
  - Foscarnet



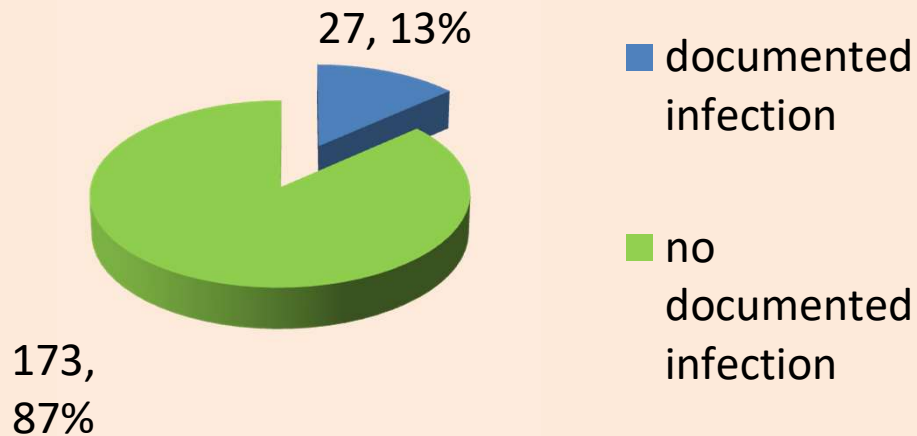
## Post transplant infection in DMCH

- Total 52 cases in DMCH
- 98% had neutropenic fever
- 200 samples ( blood, urine, stool and others) for culture and sensitivity
- 27(13.5%) samples from 24 patients were positive for organisms.
- Multidrug resistant bacteria 60%

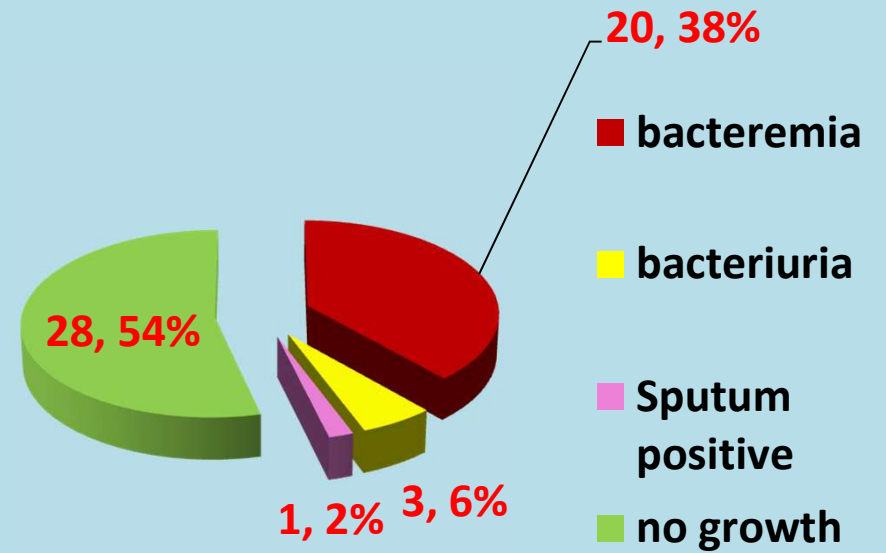


## 27 samples from 24 individuals were positive

total 200 samples



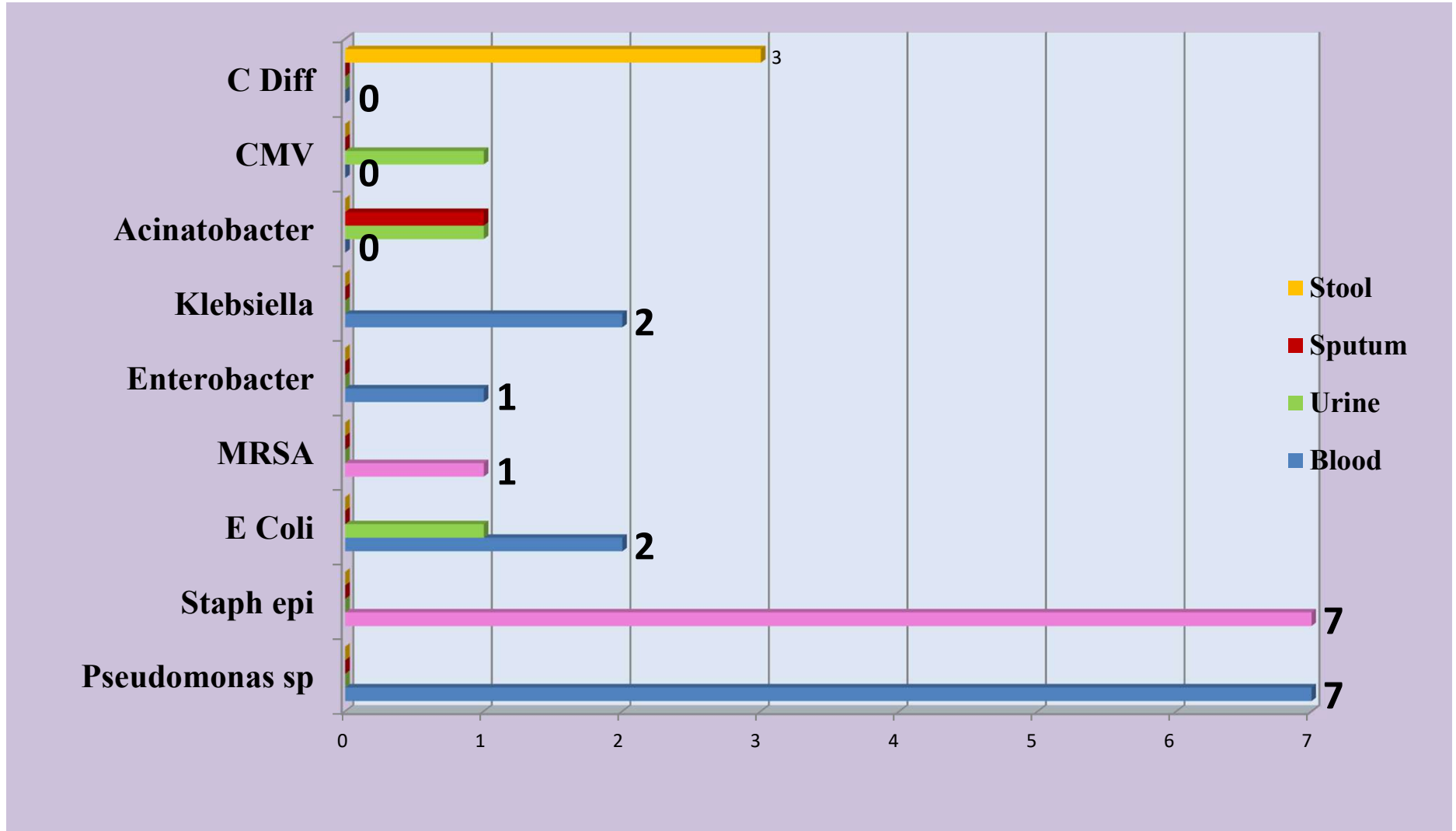
total 52 patients





# DMCH HSCT infection

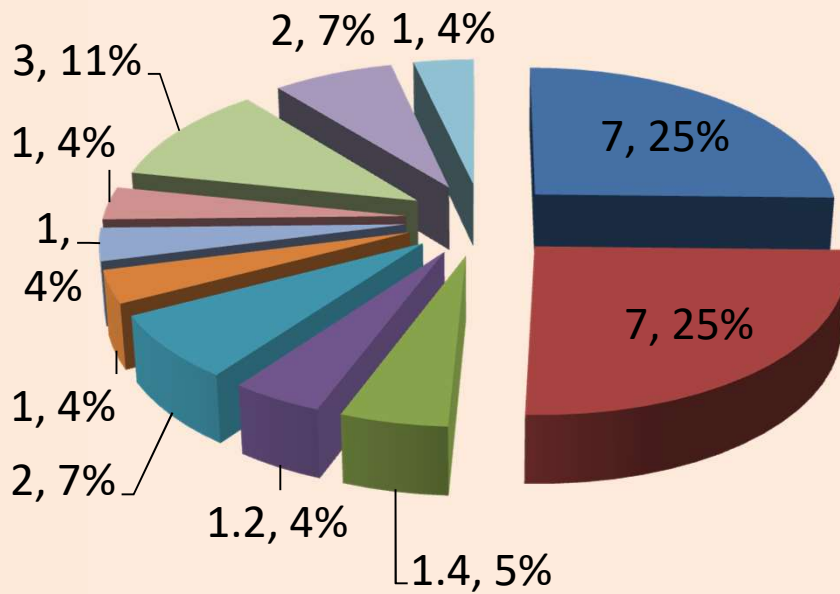
Gram negative 75% > Gram positive 25%



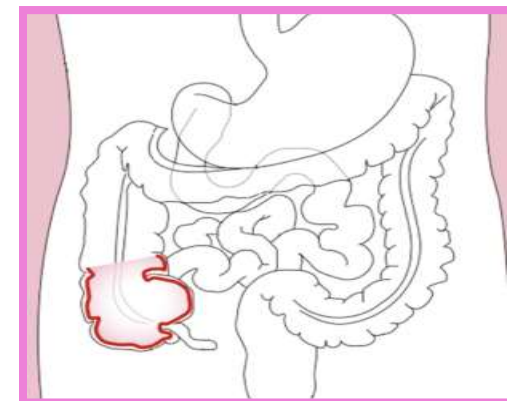
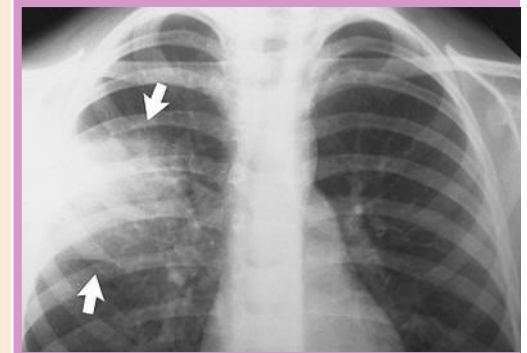
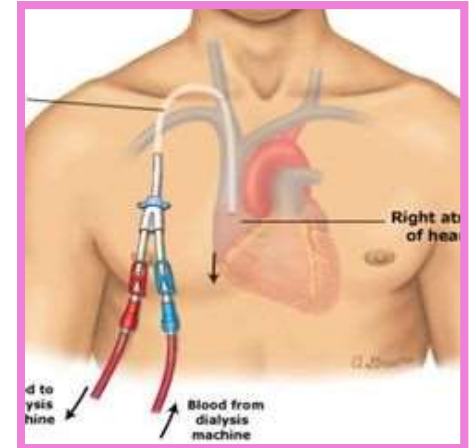


# Focus of infection may be anywhere

**Organisms identified in 45% patients.  
60% MDR**



- Pseudomonas
- Staph Epidermidis
- E Coli
- MRSA
- Klebsiella
- Enterobacter
- CMV Cystitis
- Sputum Acinator
- C Diff in Stool
- E Coli Urine





## Post Transplant Infection in Evercare Hospital

- As of 2022, total 60 HSCT( 20 Allo HSCT). Now 72.
- Allo HSCT:
  - 25 % documented bacterial infection in Allo HSCT
  - E. coli and Clostridium difficile most common.
  - Post engraftment viral infection 50%, mostly CMV.
- Auto HSCT:
  - Clostridium difficile most common.
- TRM due to infection 10%



## Conclusion

- Infection is the leading cause of NRM.
- 45% documented infection in DMCH, 20-50% in EVC.
- Post transplant infection is multifactorial.
- Broad spectrum antibiotic is needed in 1<sup>st</sup> hour.
- Bacterial infections are more common.
- Gram negative > Gram positive (75%> 25%)
- Fungal and viral documented infection are less.



## Further reading

- Kwon M, Bailén R, Pascual-Cascón MJ, Gallardo-Morillo AI, García Sola A, Balsalobre P, Solán L, Dorado N, Muñoz C, Serrano D, Martínez-Laperche C, Buño I, Anguita J, Díez-Martin JL. Posttransplant cyclophosphamide vs cyclosporin A and methotrexate as GVHD prophylaxis in matched sibling transplantation. *Blood Adv*. 2019 Nov 12;3(21):3351-3359. doi: 10.1182/bloodadvances.2019000236. PMID: 31698447; PMCID: PMC6855126.
- [https://doi.org/10.1182/blood.V130.Suppl\\_1.215.215](https://doi.org/10.1182/blood.V130.Suppl_1.215.215)
- <https://doi.org/10.1182/blood.V96.6.2062>
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- Schmidt-Hieber M, Teschner D, Maschmeyer G, Schalk E. Management of febrile neutropenia in the perspective of antimicrobial de-escalation and discontinuation. *Expert Rev Anti Infect Ther*. 2019 Dec;17(12):983-995. doi: 10.1080/14787210.2019.1573670. Epub 2019 Mar 11. PMID: 30686067.
- Zaucha-Prażmo A, Sadurska E, Pieczonka A, Goździk J, Dębski R, Drabko K, Zawitkowska J, Lejman M, Wachowiak J, Styczyński J, Kowalczyk JR. Risk Factors for Transplant Outcomes in Children and Adolescents with Non-Malignant Diseases Following Allogeneic Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation. *Ann Transplant*. 2019 Jun 25;24:374-382. doi: 10.12659/AOT.915330. PMID: 31235684; PMCID: PMC6611216.
- Tissot F, Agrawal S, Pagano L, Petrikos G, Groll AH, Skiada A, Lass-Flörl C, Calandra T, Viscoli C, Herbrecht R. ECIL-6 guidelines for the treatment of invasive candidiasis, aspergillosis and mucormycosis in leukemia and hematopoietic stem cell transplant patients. *Haematologica*. 2017 Mar;102(3):433-444. doi: 10.3324/haematol.2016.152900. Epub 2016 Dec 23. PMID: 28011902; PMCID: PMC5394968.
- AUTHOR=Chang Ying-Jun, Zhao Xiang-Yu, Huang Xiao-Jun TITLE=Strategies for Enhancing and Preserving Anti-leukemia Effects Without Aggravating Graft-Versus-Host Disease
- Many more



# THANK YOU

