Supplement 3

Microorganisms

Causative organisms were diverse, although they were predominantly those associated with device infections. One study noted a temporal effect on the type of organism associated with infection; *S. aureus* infections were seen early and *Pseudomonas* infections late.\(^1\) Another reported that treatment of driveline infections for a gram-positive pathogen was followed by development of a gram-negative infection or vice versa in one-sixth of cases.\(^2\)

A study of multi-drug–resistant organisms showed that MRSA was the most resistant organism in patients with implanted LVADs (28). Another found *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* to be a predominant organism and noted difficulty eradicating this organism with medical therapy\(^3\). *P. aeruginosa* was also reported as the most common cause of driveline infection, followed by MRSA and methicillin-susceptible *S. aureus* in another study.\(^4\) Gram-positive cocci were isolated more commonly from blood cultures and driveline exit sites than were gram-negative cocci in 1 investigation.\(^5\)

References


