SCIENTIFIC PAPER

Pyogenic Hand Infection — Importance of Gram-negative Organisms

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: This study reviewed the microbiological profile of hand infections in Hong Kong.

Patients and Methods: This was a retrospective review of 60 patients admitted to a local hospital with hand infection requiring surgical intervention. The types of infection encountered, the relationship between the microbiological profile and antecedent causes, and the diagnosis of diabetes mellitus were analysed.

Results: Gram-negative bacteria played an important role in the causation of hand infection, being present in 55% of patients with diabetes mellitus and in 84% of those with a history of animal or human bites or of toothpick injury.

Conclusion: Empirical antibiotic therapy targeting a wide spectrum of organisms, in particular gram-negative organisms, is recommended for the treatment of hand infection when there is a history of diabetes mellitus, animal or human bites, or toothpick injury.

Key Words: Antibiotics, Bites, Diabetes mellitus, Gram-negative organism, Hand injury, Infection

中文摘要

膿性手部感染 — 革蘭氏陰性細菌的重要性
林文恩，蔡啟堯

本文從後瞻角度研究60位手部細菌感染病者的臨床經驗。特別分析手部感染的類別；糖尿病感染者，與一些直接誘因獨特的微生物剖面圖。我們總結對於革蘭氏陰性的抗生素應用於治療糖尿病患者、被動物、人類咬傷，或被已用過牙籤刺傷的手部細菌感染。