

**SUPPLEMENTAL TABLE 1: Synovial Fluid Culture/PCR-ESI/MS Discordance**

Case number	Diagnosis	Year	Time to surgery	Antibiotic use	SF cell count/ $\mu$ l	Neutrophil %	ESR mm/hr	CRP mg/dl	Purulence	Pathology	Synovial fluid culture	PCR-ESI/MS				
												Organism	Q score	Level		
180	PJI	2001	45 days	No	57304	90	84	16.4	No	AE	CoNS	CoNS (3/3 samples)	Negative			
181	PJI	2001	No surgery	Doxycycline	38948	80	75	3.7	N/A	N/A	CoNS, broth only	N/A	Negative			
204	AF	2002	1 day	No	780	8	10	2.72	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (2 samples)	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	0.98	24	
													Viridans/ <i>salivarius</i> group	0.96	3	
													<i>Streptococcus</i> sp.			
													Viridans/ <i>mitis</i> group <i>Streptococcus</i> sp.	0.95	4	
214	AF	2002	7 days	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (3 samples)	<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	0.99	160	
													<i>mecA</i>	0.97	186	
215	PJI	2002	13 days	No	34661	99	74	15.4	Yes	AI	CoNS	CoNS (3/3 samples)	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	0.98	62	
													<i>Candida tropicalis</i>	0.96	32	
221	AF	2002	No surgery	No	10008	68	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Negative	N/A	<i>Staphylococcus haemolyticus</i>	0.94	10	
234	PJI	2003	1 day	No	2465	91	83	18.7	Yes	AI	Negative	CoNS, broth only (1/3 samples)	<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	0.97	24	
													<i>Lactobacillus</i> sp., broth only (1/3 samples)	<i>mecA</i>	0.97	10

277	AF <sup>a</sup>	2004	45 days	No	104	31	2	0.02	No	NAI	Negative	<i>Klebsiella</i> sp., broth only (1/3 samples)	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i> , broth only (1/3 samples)	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> complex	0.96	3
														<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	0.94	4
285	AF <sup>a</sup>	2004	2 months	No	52	26	40	1.33	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (3 samples)	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	0.9	3	
													<i>mecA</i>	0.98	1	
287	AF <sup>a</sup>	2004	20 days	no	1924	16	10	0.41	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (3 samples)	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i>	0.98	149	
297	AF <sup>a</sup>	2004	1 day	No	572	0	N/A	N/A	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (3 samples)	<i>Staphylococcus warneri</i>	0.98	24	
331	AF <sup>a</sup>	2005	2 months	No	364	14	3	0.3	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (2 samples)	<i>Methylobacterium mesophilum</i>	0.94	4	
332 <sup>a</sup>	AF <sup>b</sup>	2005	16 months	No	988	14	5	0.30	No	AE, NAI	Negative	Negative (3 samples)	<i>Micrococcus lylae/luteus</i>	0.9	15	
350	AF <sup>c</sup>	2005	3 days	Tetracycline	2236	14	14	0.8	No	NAI	Negative	Negative (3 samples)	<i>Micrococcus lylae</i>	0.99	14	

SF, Synovial fluid; ESR, Erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP, C-reactive protein; N/A, not applicable; AE, Arthroplasty effect; NAI, No acute inflammation; AI, Acute inflammation; CoNS, Coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus* species; AF, Aseptic failure; PJI, Prosthetic joint infection.

<sup>a</sup>Cases in which sonicate fluid culture was available and negative

<sup>b</sup>Case 332 had negative sonicate fluid culture and PCR-ESI/MS

<sup>c</sup>Case 350 had sonicate fluid culture with <5 cfu/10 ml *Corynebacterium* sp. (considered negative)

**SUPPLEMENTAL TABLE 2: Follow-up of Aseptic Failure Cases with Positive PCR-ESI/MS Results**

Case Number	PCR-ESI/MS Result	Year of Specimen Collection	History of Prior PJI	Use of Antibiotic-Coated Cement on Revision Surgery	Follow up Events
204	<i>Propionibacterium acnes</i> , Viridans/ <i>salivarius</i> group <i>Streptococcus</i> sp., Viridans/ <i>mitis</i> group <i>Streptococcus</i> sp.	2002	No	Vancomycin-gentamicin	2007: Asymptomatic
214	<i>S. epidermidis</i>	2002	2001: <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> infection same joint	N/A (polyethylene liner replacement only)	2004: Patient fell and developed knee pain; aspiration and inflammatory markers not suggestive of infection; radiologic lucency present  2005: Revision surgery: cultures negative, no intraarticular purulence, pathology negative for acute inflammation  2006: Cellulitis around knee and <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i> bacteremia; infection suspected, but not proven (aspiration not attempted; chronic antimicrobial suppression administered)  2009: Asymptomatic
221	<i>S. haemolyticus</i>	2002	No	No surgery performed	No data
277	<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i> complex, <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	2004	No	Vancomycin-gentamicin	2006: Developed chronic pain postoperatively, with no radiologic evidence of infection (plain radiographs)  2009: Improved pain; small area radiologic lucency

					Postoperative chronic joint pain, inflammation and waxing/waning erythema with increased ESR and CRP
285	<i>S. aureus</i>	2004	2001: <i>S. aureus</i> infection in the same joint prosthesis	Vancomycin-gentamicin	2007: Minocycline administered empirically (undetermined duration)  2010: Knee aspiration negative. ESR and CRP elevated  2012: Abnormal triple phase bone scan. No joint symptoms
287	<i>P. acnes</i>	2004	No	Gentamicin	Postoperative chronic joint pain  2012: Radiographic lucency  2013: Revision surgery scheduled (pending)
297	<i>S. warneri</i>	2004	No	Gentamicin	2006: Minor knee discomfort, no X-ray findings of infection
331	<i>Methylobacterium mesophilum</i>	2005	No	Gentamicin	2010: Asymptomatic
332	<i>Micrococcus lylae/luteus</i>	2005	No	Vancomycin-gentamicin	2011: Asymptomatic  2012: New onset knee pain
350	<i>Micrococcus lylae</i>	2005	No	Vancomycin-gentamicin	2013: Revision surgery. Synovial fluid leukocyte 2170 cells/ $\mu$ l (8% neutrophils); ESR, 15 mm/hr; CRP 0.7 mg/dl. Cultures (synovial fluid, tissue and sonicate fluid) negative. No intraarticular purulence, no acute inflammation.

N/A: Non-applicable; ESR, Erythrocyte sedimentation rate; CRP, C-Reactive protein