Le infezioni post-neurochirurgiche: come affrontarle

Flavio Giordano

Centro di Eccellenza di Neurochirurgia

Ospedale Pediatrico Meyer

Firenze

flavio.giordano@meyer.it

Convegno Nazionale

**La Gestione Appropriata
delle Infezioni in Riabilitazione:
indicazioni strategiche**

Cona (Fe) 20 Giugno 2019

Aula Congressuale

Nuovo Arcispedale S. Anna, Via A. Moro n. 8

Infezioni in Neurochirurgia

- **Infezioni ferita chirurgica - Surgical Site Infection (SSI)**
- **Infezioni sistemi di derivazione liquorale**
 - derivazione liquorale esterna (DVE, DLE)
 - derivazione ventricolo-atriale (DVA)
 - derivazione ventricolo-peritoneale (DVP)
- **Infezioni materiale protesico**
 - cranioplastiche (autologhe/eterologhe)
 - sistema di fissazione spinale
 - sistemi di neuromodulazione
 - Intrathecal Baclofen (ITB) pump – Spinal Cord Stimulator (SCS)
 - Vagus Nerve Stimulation (VNS)
 - Stereo-EEG e Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS)

Surgical Site Infections (SSI)

Author	Year	Study Design	Journal	N	Cranial Neurosurgery	Infection Rate	Comments
Korinek et al.	2005	Prospective	Br. J. Neurosurg.	4578	Craniotomies 100%	6.6%	Follow-up not specified.
Erman et al.	2005	Prospective	Surg. Neurol.	503	Craniotomies 39.2%	6.2%	Minimum 2 week follow-up
McClelland et al.	2007	Retrospective	Clinical Infectious Disease	2111	Cranial 75%	Cranial: 0.8%	Definition of SSI not specified
Lietard et al.	2008	Prospective	J. Neurosurg.	844	Craniotomies 42%	4.1%	Includes paediatric cases. 30 day follow-up only
Valentini et al.	2008	Prospective	Neurosurg.	503	Craniotomies 42%	Cranial: 1.4%	
Buffet-Bataillon et al.	2011	Prospective	J. Hosp. Infect.	2827	Cranial 59%	1.45% Cranial: 2.0%	
Sneh-Arbib et al.	2013	Prospective	Eur. J. Clin. Microbiol. Infect. Dis.	502	Craniotomies 100%	5.6%	

Incidenza 0,8-7% (0,5-7% craniotomia - 0,5-18% spinale)
Unplanned return to OR (URTOR) 4,2%

Fattori di rischio

- fistola e distrofia di ferita (RR 27,41)
- chirurgia d'urgenza e traumatologia (RR 2,01)
- terapia steroidea prolungata (RR 3,55)
- protesi, corpi estranei (RR 2,74)
- invasività, complessità e durata procedura > 3h (RR 1,85)
- infezioni precedenti e riapertura
- età > 50 anni, ASA elevato
- obesità (RR 3,1)

Davies BM Clinical Neurology Neurosurgery 2016

Pereira PL Br J Neurosurgery 2017

Wang J World Neurosurgery 2018

Lobectomia temporale
Infezione ferita chirurgica

Empiema Subdurale

Drenaggio
subdurale esterno

Craniotomia
Membranectomia

Encefalite Erpetica (HSV-I, HSV-II)

- HSV1 encefalite
- HSV2 meningite asettica
- Riattivazione HSV1
- Lobo frontale e temporale (++)
- TC: Ipodensità tardiva (5 g dopo chirurgia)
- ICP, antiedema, craniotomia decompressiva (81,2% casi)
- GOS 4/5 92,3%
- Mortalità 19-38%

Kuhnt D J Neurol Surg 2012; 73: 116-22

Safan MG Clinical Neurology Neurosurgery 2015; 128: 10-6

Jaques DA Virology Journal 2016; 13: 83

Table 2 Clinical Characteristics of HSVE after Neurosurgery

Age (mean; range)	32.1; 2-78
Previous HSVE history	8/26 (30.1 %)
Time-to-symptoms in days (mean; range)	7.7; 1-21
HSV-2 etiology	4/26 (15.4 %)
Time to treatment in days (mean; range)	5.8; 0-16
Death or sequelae	14/26 (53.8 %)

Table 3 Clinical Outcome of HSVE after Neurosurgery

		Death or sequelae
Overall		14/26 (53.8 %)
	Children	4/7 (57.1 %)
	Adults	10/19 (52.6 %)
No treatment ^a		5/5 (100.0 %)
Treatment		9/21 (42.9 %)
	Initiated ≤ 2 days ^b	0/5 (0.0 %)
	Initiated ≥ 3 days ^b	8/14 (57.1 %)

^aidoxuridine considered as "no treatment"

^b2 reports excluded as timing of treatment is not indicated [5, 10]

Case-report	Patient age	Primary lesion	Location	Therapy	Outcome	Remarks
(8)	11	pituitary adenoma	sella region	none	death	
(8)	41	pituitary adenoma	sella region	idoxuridine	death	
(12)	65	astrocytoma	temporal lobe	none	death	diagnosis postmortem
(2)	64	craniopharyngioma	sella region	acyclovir	blindness	HSV-2
(19)	78	meningioma	parasagittal, frontoparietal	none	death	
(4)	8	hippocampal sclerosis	temporal lobe	acyclovir	dysphasia	previous HSE
(18)	28	glioblastoma multiforme	temporal lobe	none	death	
(13)	28	oligodendroglioma	temporal lobe	acyclovir	recovery	previous HSE
(19)	47	meningioma	sphenoid wing	acyclovir	apallic	

Riattivazione HSV1 dopo interventi neurochirurgici

Kuhnt D J Neurol Surg 2012; 73: 116-22

Safain MG Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery 2015; 128: 10-6

Ascesso Cerebrale

- Post-traumatico 14%
- Post-chirurgico 9%
- Tx antibiotica 6-8 sett
- Chirurgia $\geq 2,5$ cm
 - Puntura stereotassica 90%
 - Asportazione diretta 8-10%

Predisposing Condition	Common Microbial Isolates
Immunocompromise	
HIV infection	<i>Toxoplasma gondii</i> , nocardia and mycobacterium species, <i>Listeria monocytogenes</i> , <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i>
Neutropenia	Aerobic gram-negative bacilli, aspergillus species, Mucorales, candida and scedsporium species
Transplantation	Aspergillus and candida species, Mucorales, scedsporium species, Enterobacteriaceae, nocardia species, <i>T. gondii</i> , <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>
Contiguous spread of bacteria	
Penetrating trauma or neurosurgery	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , <i>S. epidermidis</i> , streptococcus species (anaerobic and aerobic), Enterobacteriaceae, clostridium species†
Otitis media or mastoiditis	Streptococcus species (anaerobic and aerobic), bacteroides and prevotella species, Enterobacteriaceae†
Paranasal sinusitis	Streptococcus species (anaerobic and aerobic), bacteroides species, Enterobacteriaceae, <i>S. aureus</i> , haemophilus species†
Hematogenous spread of bacteria	
Lung abscess, empyema, bronchiectasis	Fusobacterium, actinomyces, bacteroides, prevotella, nocardia, streptococcus species
Bacterial endocarditis	<i>S. aureus</i> , streptococcus species
Congenital heart disease	Streptococcus and haemophilus species
Dental infection	Mixed infection with fusobacterium, prevotella, actinomyces, bacteroides, and streptococcus species (anaerobic and aerobic)

da Brouwer MC et al. N Engl J Med 2014; 371: 447-56

Ascesso cerebrale
da infezione
elettrodo SEEG

Trattamento medico
esclusivo

Ascesso cerebrale da infezione sito chirurgico (20a giornata)

Puntura stereotassica + terapia A/B

Ascesso cerebrale dopo exeresi TNS dermoide baso-frontale (10a giornata)

Toeletta chirurgica + terapia A/B

Infezioni fungine in Neurochirurgia

- Contaminazione diretta post-chirurgica
- Via ematogena
- Continuità/contiguità (seni nasali/paranasali)
- Angioinvasità (Aspergillus Flavus, Fumigatus)
 - Stroke
 - Aneurismi micotici
- Bonifica focolaio centrale + Tx A/B
- Asportazione diretta micetoma

Febbre in 25a giornata
Stroke

REVIEW

Management of infections associated with neurosurgical implanted devices

Anna Conen^a, Christoph A. Fux^a, Peter Vajkoczy^b and Andrej Trampuz^c

^aClinic of Infectious Diseases and Hospital Hygiene, Department of Internal Medicine, Kantonsspital Aarau, Aarau, Switzerland; ^bDepartment of Neurosurgery, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany; ^cCenter for Musculoskeletal Surgery, Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Berlin, Germany

Table 1. Classification of neurosurgical device-associated infections: extrapolation from other implant-associated infections.

	Early infection	Delayed and late infection
When	≤4 weeks after implantation	<i>Delayed:</i> >4 weeks after implantation <i>Late:</i> >12 months after implantation
Clinical presentation	Acute Fever, local signs of infection (including local warmth, erythema, swelling, tenderness, and wound drainage)	Low-grade Persistent wound drainage, fistula
Biofilm	'Immature'	'Mature'
Surgical treatment	Debridement and implant retention possible	Removal or exchange of the implant necessary (one- or two-stage exchange)
Antimicrobial treatment	Anti-biofilm treatment for 12 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually 2 weeks intravenous treatment• Then, 10 weeks oral treatment	Anti-biofilm treatment for 12 weeks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Usually 2 weeks intravenous treatment• Then, 10 weeks oral treatment

Adapted from Zimmerli et al. [15], Kleber et al. [27], and Conen et al. [14].

BIOFILM: matrice di sostanze polimeriche extracellulari (EPS)

- protezione da azione antibiotici e sistema immunitario
- annidamento batteri quiescenti non responsivi a beta-lattamici e vancocina
- «fagocitosi frustrata»

Surgery

- Debridement
- Implant retention or exchange
- Soft tissue coverage

Anti-biofilm treatment

- Rifampin combinations against staphylococci
- Fluoroquinolones against gram-negative bacilli

Microorganism **known, susceptible** to anti-biofilm antibiotics

Early infection #: Implant debridement and retention
- 12 weeks anti-biofilm therapy*

One-stage exchange of implant
- 12 weeks anti-biofilm therapy*

Two-stage exchange of implant (**short interval**, 2 weeks without implant)
- 12 weeks anti-biofilm therapy*

Microorganism known, **NOT susceptible** to anti-biofilm antibiotics

Two-stage exchange of implant with **long interval** (6-8 weeks without implant)
- 6 weeks antibiotic therapy

Implant retention and long-term antibiotic **suppression** therapy

Sonicazione essudato e protesi: incubazione prolungata ed estrazioni agenti patogeni dal biofilm (sensibilità 90%; specificità 99%)

Infezione Derivazione Ventricolare Esterna (DVE)

- Incidenza 1-28%
- Aumento rischio 8.8% dopo 5 gg
- Flora batterica cutanea (*Staf. Epidermidis*, *Staf. Aureus*, *P. Acnes*, gram neg)

Diagnosi differenziale

- Contaminazione (colturale *pos*, chimico-fisico *neg*)
- Infezione vera (colturale *pos*, chimico-fisico *pos*)

Table 1
Microbiology of ventriculostomy-related infections

Study, ^{ref.} Year	Country	No. of Positive Cultures	Coagulase-Negative Staphylococci	<i>S aureus</i>	<i>Acinetobacter</i>	<i>Pseudomonas</i>	Enterobacteriaceae	Other
Camacho et al, ²⁰ 2011	Brazil	22	2 (9%)	1 (5%)	6 (27%) ^a	3 (14%)	7 (32%)	3 (14%)
Chi et al, ⁸ 2010	Taiwan	35	1 (3%)	2 (6%)	6 (17%)	9 (26%)	7 (20%)	10 (29%)
Scheithauer et al, ¹⁴ 2010	Germany	21 ^b	9 (43%)	4 (19%)	1 (5%)		6 (29%)	1 (5%)
Lo et al, ¹¹ 2007	Australia	25	4 (16%)	2 (8%)	10 (40%)	1 (4%)	4 (16%)	4 (16%)
Orsi et al, ⁸⁸ 2006	Italy	11	2 (18%)	1 (9%)		4 (36%)	1 (9%)	3 (27%)
Korinek et al, ¹⁰ 2005	France	57	44 (77%)	4 (7%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	6 (11%)
Arabi et al, ¹⁸ 2005	Saudi Arabia	22 ^c	3 (14%)	1 (5%)	6 (27%)	2 (9%)	4 (18%)	3 (14%)
Bota et al, ⁸⁷ 2005	Belgium	58	21 (36%)	18 (31%)	2 (3%)	3 (5%)	12 (21%)	2 (3%)
Schade et al, ⁹ 2005	Netherlands	14	8 (57%)	3 (21%)			1 (7%)	2 (14%)
Flibotte et al, ²¹ 2004	USA	17 ^b	12 (71%)	1 (6%)		1 (6%)	1 (6%)	1 (6%)
Lyke et al, ¹² 2001	USA	11	2 (18%)				9 (82%)	
Sundborg et al, ³ 1988	Sweden	27	16 (59%)	4 (15%)	2 (7%)		1 (4%)	4 (15%)
Mayhall et al, ⁵ 1984	USA	19	6 (32%)	1 (5%)	2 (10%)		8 (42%)	2 (11%)

Fattori di rischio infezione drenaggio liquorale esterno:

- mantenimento prolungato (> 15 gg)
- fistola liquorale
- terapia steroidea
- durata ricovero (> 7 gg)
- terapia intensiva

Risk factors for ventriculostomy-related infections

- Intraventricular hemorrhage
- Subarachnoid hemorrhage
- Depressed cranial fracture
- CSF leak from fracture or ventriculostomy site
- Neurosurgical operation
- Duration of catheterization
- Severity of underlying illness
- Systemic infection
- Frequent manipulation and sampling of drainage system
- Catheter irrigation

- **Rischio evoluzione piocefalia/ventriculite, idrocefalo complesso (5-20%)**
- **Sostituzione DVE terapia intratecale dose 10 x MIC (*non consenso, effetti collaterali 28%*)**
 - Vancocina Staf. spp, MRSA
 - Gentamicina Gram neg
 - Colistina KFC, Acinetobacter
 - Amfotericina B Aspergillus spp, Candida (tossicità SNC, ventriculite, meningite)

Evolution in multiloculated complex hydrocephalus multicystic + trapped temporal horn

List of administered antibiotics

i.v.	i.t.
Vancomycin (n = 23; 70%)	Vancomycin (n = 16; 49%)
Meropenem (n = 22; 67%)	Gentamicin (n = 7; 21%)
Ceftazidim (n = 7; 21%)	Colistin (n = 1; 3%)
Fosfomicin (n = 7; 21%)	
Rifampicin (n = 4; 12%)	
Ceftriaxon (n = 6; 18%)	
Rocephin (n = 3; 9%)	
Cefepim (n = 1; 3%)	
Metronidazol (n = 2; 6%)	
Piperacillin/tazob. (n = 1; 3%)	

Ventriculite da gram negativi
(*Acinet. Baumannii*, *Klebsiella spp.*)

- mortalità 70%
- ruolo neuroendoscopia
- lavaggi ventricolari e terapia intratecale

Kumar A World Neurosurgery 2016
 Conen A Expert review of antiinfective therapy 2017
 von Sprackelsen N Acta Neurochir 2018
 Chen FM Infection and Drug resistance 2019

Infezione Derivazione Ventricolare Interna

Tasso di incidenza 3-15%

- 70% entro 2 mesi da impianto
- 80% entro 6 mesi da impianto
- 12% dopo 12 mesi (pb. addominali)
- Mortalità 10%
- Sequele cognitive, epilessia
- Segni Clinici
 - segni/sintomi infezione (+)
 - disfunzione di shunt (+++)

Infezione Shunt Liquorali

Eziologia

- contaminazione diretta precoce (72%)
- via ematogena (DVA)
- contaminazione diretta tardiva (27%, lesione intestino)

Fattori di Rischio

- prematurità, neonati, lattanti
- idrocefalo post-emorragico, mielomeningocele
- liquorrea, precedente infezione di ferita
- chirurgo
- fattori ambientali (sala operatoria)

Infezione Derivazione Ventricolare Interna (DVP/DVA)

■ Staph. Epid ■ Staph. Aureus ■ Cor. Dypht
■ Prop. Acnes ■ Gram Neg

Cateteri impregnati AB (Bactiseal®, Silver-EVD®)
 Riduzione «bacterial coat» →

- Infezioni CSF/DVP 9,4% → 1,3%
- Colonizzazione 36,7% → 17,9%

Possibili falsi negativi in esame liquor e antibiotico-resistenza !!

Thompson DNP, Hartley JC. Shunt Infections
 In: Albright AL, Pollack IF, Adelson PD.
 Principles and practice of Pediatric Neurosurgery
 Thieme, New York 2015

Shunt implantation: reducing the incidence of shunt infection

MAURICE CHOIX, M.D., LORENZO GENITORI, M.D., DOROTHY LANG, M.D., F.R.C.S., AND GABRIEL LENA, M.D.

Department of Pediatric Neurosurgery, Hôpital des Enfants, La Timone, Marseille, France

Table 1. Miscellaneous techniques and practices offered by respondents

Triple preparation with Betadine scrub (Purdue Pharma, Stamford, Conn., USA), alcohol, DuraPrep surgical solution (3M, St. Paul, Min., USA), and Ioban drape (3M)

Soak hardware in bacitracin

Irrigate hardware for 30 min with bacitracin

Handle shunt with rubber-tipped instruments

No-touch rule with respect to shunt components or while changing gloves prior to handling shunt

Protect wound edges with Betadine-soaked gauze

Limit time of the operation

Antibiotic ointment on non-hair-bearing skin

Clip hair only; no razor shave

Do not remove hair

Do not follow an infected or contaminated case, i.e., ear, nose, and throat or bowel surgery

Careful multilayer closure

TABLE 1

Outline of revised protocol for shunt implantation

preoperative period

- assessment of patient
 - localized skin problem
 - general medical condition
- no shaving (except in older children undergoing revision)
- skin preparation (povidone iodine or chlorhexidine)
- no antibiotic medications

shunt implantation

- theater schedules/timing
 - shunts early in the morning, before other operations
 - neonates & infants before older children
 - no more than four shunt procedures per day
 - length of operation: 20 to 40 mins
- theater staff
 - only four people in operating room (surgeon, assistant, anesthesiologist, circulating nurse)
 - no scrub nurse
 - experienced neurosurgeon
- shunt material
 - careful selection of shunt
 - opening sterile packaging at last moment
 - no testing of valve
- surgical technique
 - two skin incisions
 - meticulous hemostasis
 - careful siting of valve/reservoir
 - quality of skin closure
- antibiotic medications
 - prophylactic intravenous antibiotic 30 mins before skin incision

postoperative period

- head position — avoid pressure on valve
- no antibiotic medications
- two shampoos
- approximate length of stay:
 - 4 days (first shunt)
 - 2 days (shunt revision)

Ruolo ETV in infezioni di shunt

Figure 2. Proposed management algorithm for shunt-associated infections. Adapted from Conen et al. [14].
 Abbreviations: CSF: Cerebrospinal fluid; EVD: external ventricular drainage; ELD: external lumbar drainage; IV: intravenous
 * Pathological CSF results: CSF leukocyte count >5x10⁶ cells/μl, with predominantly granulocytes, CSF lactate >1.9 mmol/l, CSF total protein >0.45 g/l, glucose CSF/blood ratio <0.5
 # Blood cultures especially in ventriculo-atrial shunt infections recommended
 § For low-virulent microorganisms, including coagulase-negative staphylococci and *P. acnes*, re-implantation after 5–7 days; for *S. aureus*, *Streptococcus* spp., *Enterococcus* spp. and culture-negative infections: 14 days; for Enterobacteriaceae and *P. aeruginosa* 21 days

Table 4. Comparison of infections associated with ventriculoperitoneal and ventriculoatrial shunts and external ventricular and lumbar drainages, respectively.

	Ventriculoperitoneal and ventriculoatrial shunt	External ventricular and lumbar drainage
Indication	Chronic, persistent hydrocephalus	Acute hydrocephalus: CSF drainage or intracranial pressure monitoring
Infection risk	5–15%	10–15% (increases with duration of catheterization)
Risk factors for infection	Serial revisions Postoperative CSF leakage Previous infection Prolonged duration of surgery Abdominal infections ^a	Catheter irrigation Duration of catheterization Intracranial hemorrhage Cranial fracture with CSF leakage
Infection acquisition	Infections with secondary bacteremia ^b Intraoperative Contiguous (skin wound, perforated gut ^a , etc.) Hematogenous ^b	Contiguous
At the end	Shunt dysfunction, hydrocephalus	Up to 44% require an internal shunt

Cranioplastica

Figure 1. Reason for cranioplasty.

Table 4. Analysis of Factors Associated with Infection

Factor	Number of infections (%)	Number of Infections in Comparison Group (%)	P Value
Male sex	27/111 (24.3)	16/69 (23.2)	1.00
Immunosuppression	10/26 (38.5)	32/143 (22.4)	0.089
Ventriculoperitoneal shunt	12/50 (24.0)	31/130 (23.8)	1.00
Postoperative fluid collection	22/34 (64.7)	21/143 (14.7)	0.000
Wound dehiscence	30/49 (61.2)	13/130 (10.0)	0.000
Previous infection	10/37 (27.0)	33/143 (23.1)	0.667
Trauma	22/93 (23.7)	21/87 (24.1)	1.000
Autologous bone flap	16/47 (34.0)	27/131 (20.6)	0.075
Early cranioplasty	5/19 (26.3)	20/80 (25.0)	1.000
Late cranioplasty	18/81 (22.2)	20/80 (25.0)	0.714
Size >10,000 mm ²	21/40 (30.9)	47/110 (69.1)	0.354

Table 2. Materials Used for the Cranioplasty Flap

Material	Number (%)
Autologous bone	48 (25.8)
Titanium mesh	7 (3.7)
Methyl methacrylate	17 (9.1)
Acrylic	7 (3.7)
Plastic	3 (1.6)
Polyethylene	13 (6.9)
Polyether ether ketone (i.e., PEEK)	38 (20.4)
Poly methyl methacrylate (i.e., PMMA)	20 (10.7)
Other synthetic	33 (17.7)

Eterologa

- infezioni 1-26%

Autologa

- riassorbimento per necrosi asettica 2-32%

Salvataggio cranioplastica (revisione chirurgica + A/B)

Sistemi di fissazione spinale

Infezione e distrofia cutanea
Salvataggio impianto con innesto libero di lembo peduncolato

Morbilità Intrathecal Baclofen (ITB) Pump

• CHIRURGICHE

- ◆ Procedura correlate (rare)
- ◆ Sistema correlate (++) infezioni, disfunzioni catetere, fistola LCR, decubio, dislocazioni pompa, sieroma,)
- ◆ Ricarica pompa (danneggiamento sistema, procedura errata)

• FARMACOLOGICHE

- ◆ Vertigini, sopore, arresto cardio-respiratorio,
 - ◆ Disturbi SNV
 - ◆ Stipsi, difficoltà minzione (reversibile)
 - ◆ Sovradosaggio (a.d. fisostigmina)
 - ◆ Ipertermia maligna
 - ◆ Rabbdomiolisi
- da
sospensione

Complicazioni: 4-20% (+ bambini, + forme distono-discinetiche)

Infezioni 10-25%

*Brennan PM Br J Neurosurg 2008; Aug (22): 508-19
Borrini L Arch Phys Med Rehabil 2014; Jan 6*

Salvataggio del sistema di infusione (toiletta chirurgica + A/B)

Infezioni materiale neuromodulazione

DBS
0,6-14%

VNS
1-6%

FIG. 2. IPG reoperation survival curves. Expiration refers to battery life. Figure is available in color online only.

FIG. 3. IPG erosion frequency by BMI quartile. Figure is available in color online only.

TABLE 2. Comparison of patient and procedure variables associated with reoperation for hardware removal due to device infection or erosion

Variable	Infection			Erosion		
	Infected	Non-Infected	p Value†	Eroded	Non-Eroded	p Value†
No. of procedures	27	968		16	979	
Mean age at surgery in yrs	56.2 ± 14.4	60.0 ± 13.6	0.150	61.5 ± 10.6	59.9 ± 13.7	0.637
% male	77.8	59.1	0.072	75.0	59.3	0.305
Median no. of replacements (IQR)	1 (0.75–3.25)	2 (1–4)	0.487	2 (0.25–4.75)	2 (1–4)	0.991
Median op time in mins (IQR)	30 (26–40.25)	30 (23.0–38.0)	0.102	28.5 (19.25–34.25)	30.0 (23.0–38.0)	0.179
Median BMI in kg/m ² (IQR)	27.2 (22.6–28.8)	27.0 (23.6–30.6)	0.540	23.9 (21.3–29.0)	27.0 (23.6–30.6)	0.047
% vancomycin powder use	18.5	15.8	0.922	18.8	15.8	0.730

Boldface type indicates statistical significance.

† Comparisons were performed using chi-square or Fisher's exact test for categorical variables and Mann-Whitney U-test or Student's t-test for continuous variables. Comparison of vancomycin for infection was performed using the log-rank test.

Erosione/infezione
4,3%

Table 2
Incidence of deep brain stimulator infections^a

Study, ^{ref.} Year	Country	Years of Study	Patients/Leads	Incidence (n)	Management Details
Doshi, ⁸⁸ 2011	India	1999–2009	153/298	4.6% (7)	5 required removal of hardware 2 managed with antibiotics alone
Vergani et al, ⁸¹ 2010	Italy	1998–2007	141/	5.6% (8)	5 required removal of hardware 3 managed with antibiotics alone
Hu et al, ⁸⁹ 2010	China	2000–2008	161/259	0.62% (1)	1 required removal of hardware
Fily et al, ⁷⁹ 2011	France	2006–2008	67/	9.0% (6)	11 required removal of hardware 1 managed with antibiotics alone ^b
Follett et al, ⁹⁰ 2010	USA	2002–2005	299/598	7.7% (23)	
Gorgulho et al, ⁷⁷ 2009	USA	1998–2003	139/228	14.3% (20)	12 required removal of hardware 7 managed with antibiotics alone
Seijo et al, ⁹¹ 2007	Spain	1998–2005	130/272	1.5% (2)	2 required removal of hardware
Voges et al, ⁸² 2006	Germany	1996–2003	262/472	5.7% (15)	12 required removal of hardware 3 managed with antibiotics alone
Sillay et al, ⁷⁸ 2008	USA	1998–2006	420/759	4.5% (19)	19 required removal of hardware
Blomstedt and Hariz, ⁹² 2002	UK	1993–2002	119/161	3.3% (4)	
Lyons et al, ⁹³ 2004	USA	1997–2002	81/155	6.2% (5)	5 required removal of hardware
Umemura et al, ⁹⁴ 2003	USA	1998–2002	109/179	3.7% (4)	4 required removal of hardware
Oh et al, ⁸⁰ 2002	Canada	1993–1999	79/124	15.2% (12)	11 required removal of hardware
Joint et al, ⁹⁵ 2002	UK	1998–2001	39/79	0	
Beric et al, ⁹⁶ 2001	USA	1998–2001	86/149	1.2% (1)	
Temel et al, ⁹⁷ 2004	Netherlands	1996–2002	108/178	3.7% (4)	2 required removal of hardware 2 managed with antibiotics alone

DBS - Incidenza 0,62-14,3 % (50% tasca sottocutanea)

Flora batterica della cute (Staf. Aureus, Staf. Epidermidis, Pr. Acnes)

- Rimozione completa
- Rimozione solo IPG + estensioni
- Debridment + A/B 6 settimane per salvataggio impianto

Table 6. Recommendations for the management of neurostimulator-associated infections according to the site of infection.

Clinical situation	Management of the neurostimulator	Antimicrobial therapy ^a
Pocket infection (no difficult to treat microorganisms detected)	Change generator (and implantation site because of soft tissue condition) Keep wires and leads	12 weeks anti-biofilm treatment
Extracranial wire infection (no difficult to treat microorganisms detected)	Change wires, lead extenders, or connector sites Keep generator and leads	12 weeks anti-biofilm treatment
Neurostimulator removed (no difficult to treat microorganisms detected)	Immediate reimplantation (one-stage exchange)	12 weeks anti-biofilm treatment
	Delayed reimplantation (two-stage exchange)	12 weeks anti-biofilm treatment
	• Short implant-free interval (2 weeks)	6 weeks antimicrobial therapy, no anti-biofilm therapy needed
	• Long implant-free interval (≥ 6 weeks)	6 weeks antimicrobial therapy, no anti-biofilm therapy needed
Pocket infection, extracranial wire infection (difficult to treat microorganisms ^b detected)	Remove implant, reinsert after a long implant-free interval (≥ 6 weeks) If no removal: debridement and soft tissue coverage before initiation of suppression therapy	Long-term antimicrobial suppression therapy ^c

Tentativo di salvataggio device per possibile rischio di:

- tetano muscolare (ITB)
- peggioramento acuto/grave disturbo movimento e stato di male distonico (DBS)
- epilessia/depressione (VNS)

Take Home Messages

Ignác Fülöp Semmelweis
(1818-1865)

- Asepsi chirurgica: primo fattore di prevenzione
- Infezioni liquorali: DVE spesso necessaria; ruolo neuroendoscopia
- Infezioni protesiche: possibile salvataggio se infezione acuta
- Infezioni neurostimolatori: tentativo di salvataggio per prevenire complicazioni neurologiche