

Definition



Endovascular infection of cardiovascular structures, large intrathoracic vessels, or intracardiac foreign bodies

Risk Factors



Previous infective endocarditis



Pre-existing cardiac disease



Prosthetic valves, cardiac material, or intracardiac devices



Chronic intravenous access



Congenital Heart Disease



Elderly or immunocompromised



Diabetes, HIV, infection, malignancy

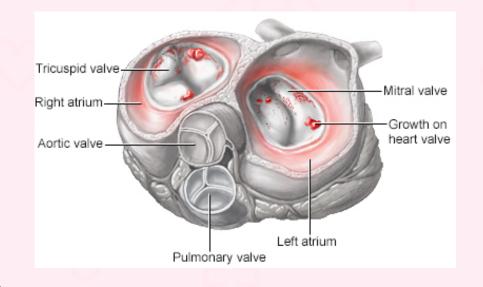


Dental Procedures



History of IVDU

- In Non-IVDU, the common value affected in order:
 - Mitral > Aortic > Tricuspid
- In IVDU, tricuspid valve (right sided lesion) is more common







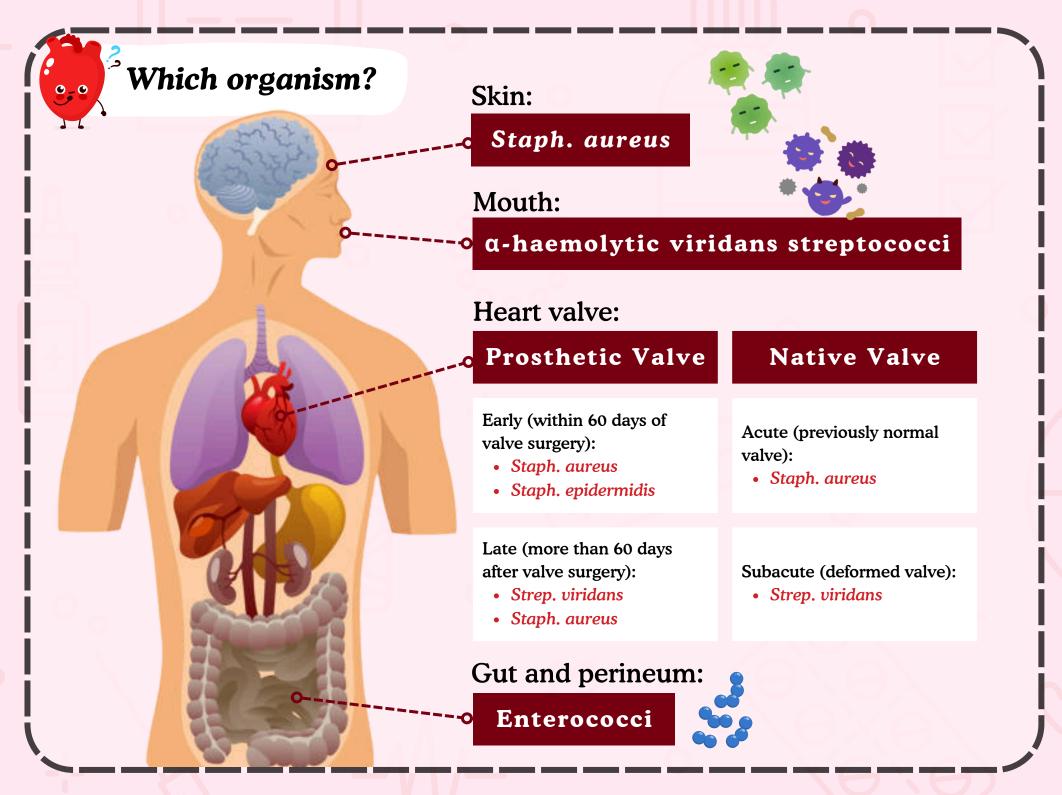
Aetiology

Consequence of two factors:

Bacteremia



Abnormal cardiac endothelium



Rare causes:

HACEK group (Haemophilus, Actinobacillus, Cardiobacterium, Eikenella, Kingella)

Culture-negative:

Prior antibiotic therapy

Fastidious organisms: Coxiella burnetii, Chlamydia, Bartonella, Legionella





Clinical Features

1. Cardiac manifestation:

- New Murmurs
 - i. Mitral Regurgitation
 - ii. Aortic Regurgitation
 - iii. Tricuspid Regurgitation
- **Cardiac failure**
- Bradycardia



2. Extracardiac Manifestation:

System

Features



• Osler nodes



• Petechiae



Janeway Lesions



Splinter haemorrhages

Skin





Clinical Features

System



Musculoskeletal





Renal



General

Features



• Roth spots



• Conjunctival splinter haemorrhages

- Arthralgia
- Splenomegaly



Cerebral emboli

Mycotic aneurysm

• Haematuria



Pyrexia



Malaise

Clubbing





Modified Duke's Criteria

REMEMBER: BETIMER

Major Criteria

Minor Criteria

- 1. Blood culture
 - Persistently positive: >2 times
- 2. Echocardiographic evidence of endocardial involvement

- 1. Temperature ≥38°C
- 2. Immunological phenomena
 - a. Glomerulonephritis
 - b. Osler nodes
 - c. Roth spots
 - d. Rheumatoid factor
- 3. Microbiological evidence
 - a. Positive blood culture but not meeting major criterion
- 4. Embolic phenomenon
 - a. Major arterial emboli
 - b. Septic pulmonary infarcts
- 5. Risk factors
 - a. Heart condition
 - b. Intravenous drug use





Modified Duke's Criteria

Definite IE

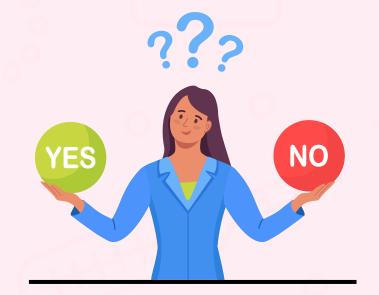


Clinical criteria:

- ✓ 1 major and 3 minor OR

Possible IE

- ✓ 1 major criterion and 1 minor criterion OR
- 3 minor criteria



Rejected IE

- Firm alternative diagnosis explaining evidence OR
- \checkmark With antimicrobial therapy for ≤ 4 days \bigcirc R:
 - Resolution
 - No pathological evidence of IE
- Does not meet criteria for possible IE



2023 Duke-International Society for Cardiovascular Infectious Diseases (ISCVID) Criteria





Investigations

Bedside Tests

Urinalysis



Haematuria Proteinuria

Electrocardiogram (ECG)

Prolonged PR/Heart block (aortic root abscess)



Laboratory Tests

Blood cultures



30-minute intervals between samples
At least three sets
Separate peripheral venepuncture sites

Serological tests

Consider in culture-negative cases



Full blood count

↓ Haemoglobin

† White blood cells

↓/↑ Platelets



Inflammatory markers

- ↑ Erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)
- ↑ C-reactive protein (CRP)
- † Procalcitonin (PCT)



Serum creatinine and electrolytes

†Urea

↑ Creatinine



Liver biochemistry

† Serum alkaline phosphatase (ALP)







Investigations

Imaging

Transthoracic (TTE): First-line, non-invasive

Transoesophageal (TOE): Second-line, invasive, higher sensitivity

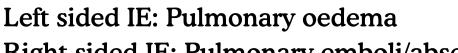
Echocardiography



Chest X-ray



Valve vegetation on echocardiogram



Right sided IE: Pulmonary emboli/abscess



-Empirical Treatment-AUSTRALIA

Native valve endocarditis:

REMEMBER: Big Friendly Giant

• Benzylpenicillin, Flucloxacillin, Gentamicin

<u>Prosthetic valve and cardiac implantable electronic device</u> <u>associated endocarditis:</u>

REMEMBER: Very Friendly Giant

• Vancomycin, Flucloxacillin, Gentamicin

<u>Patients with immediate non-severe or delayed non-severe</u> <u>hypersensitivity to penicillins:</u>

REMEMBER: Very Cool Giant

• Vancomycin, Cefazolin, Gentamicin





-Empirical Treatment-MALAYSIA

Community-acquired native valves or late prosthetic valves:



REMEMBER: A Gentle Cat

• Ampicillin, Gentamicin, Cloxacillin



Early prosthetic values or healthcare associated endocarditis:



REMEMBER: Very Gentle Red Cat



• Vancomycin, Gentamicin, ± Rifampicin, ± Cefepime

Some examples of directed treatment:

Methicillin-susceptible staphylococci Flucloxacillin

Methicillin-resistant staphylococci Vancomycin

Viridans streptococci and S. bovis Benzylpenicillin, Gentamicin

HACEK Ceftriaxone or Cefotaxime





-Surgical Intervention-



REMEMBER: V-HEART

Indicated in:

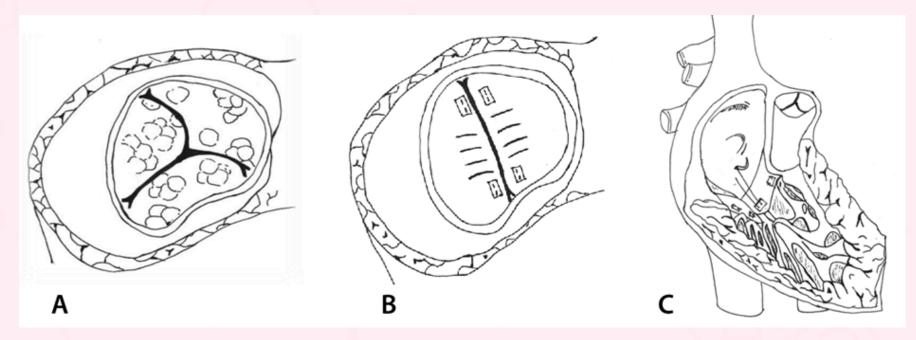
- Vegetation > 10mm and recurrent systemic embolisation
- Heart failure, severe valvular incompetence or haemodynamically instability
- Extension to paravalvular (abscess, fistula, pseudoaneurysm)
- AV block
- Resistant organisms or fungi
- Treatment failure (uncontrolled sepsis)



-Surgical Intervention-

Principles:

- Complete removal and radical debridement of all infected and necrotic material
- Valve repair when possible is preferred rather than replacement
- The choice of valve prosthesis type should be based on the standard considerations when deciding between a mechanical or bioprosthetic valve



(A) Vegetations on the tricuspid valve. (B) Neovalve with two rectangular segments of autologous pericardium with four fenestrations. (C) Neovalve patches were tacked into the papillary muscles with separated sutures, then in the tricuspid annulus with continuous suture





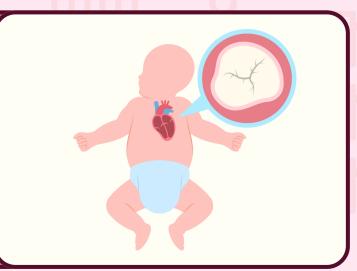


Prevention/Prophylaxis

Antibiotic prophylaxis

Only for patients who meet both of the following criteria:

Cardiac condition with high risk of infective endocarditis and adverse outcomes (Eg. Prosthetic Value/ Congenital Heart Disease)





Are undergoing a procedure with high risk of a bacteraemia (E.g. Dental procedures: give Amoxicillin as prophylaxis)

Additional recommendations

- Regular dental check- ups
- Disinfection of wounds and eradication of chronic bacterial carriage (skin, urine)
- Curative antibiotics for any focus of bacterial infection
- No self- medication with antibiotics
- Strict infection control during at- risk procedures
- Avoidance of piercing or tattoos
- Limitation of the usage of infusion catheters







References

- 1. Kumar & Clark's Clinical Medicine (10th edition)
- 2. CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES FOR THE PREVENTION, DIAGNOSIS & MANAGEMENT OF INFECTIVE ENDOCARDITIS 2017
 - https://mymahtas2.moh.gov.my/files/Prevention,%20Diagnosis %20&%20Management%20of%20Infective%20Endocarditis.pdf
- 3. MED3100 & MED3200 Pathology Educational Materials 2025 Core Curriculum Lecture: Cardiac and Cardiovascular
- 4. https://www.mountsinai.org/health-library/diseasesconditions/endocarditis
- 5. www.lib.uiowa.edu/hardin/md/cdc/3184.html
- 6. https://healthjade.com/endocarditis/
- 7. https://radiopaedia.org/articles/infective-endocarditis
- 8. eTherapeutic Guidelines
- 9. Amórtegui HL, Cristancho JP, Donís-Gómez I. Tricuspid valve repair with autologous pericardium in a patient with infective endocarditis. Brazilian Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery. 2020 Jan 13;36:137-9.

