Evaluation of PICC complications in orthopedic inpatients | 1

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the complications of peripherally inserted central catheters (PICCs) in orthopedic patients with chronic bone orthopedic infection” Schneider et al (2015).

Reference:


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Abstract:

PURPOSE: The purpose of this study is to evaluate the complications of peripherally inserted central catheters (PICCs) in orthopedic patients with chronic bone orthopedic infection.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: The institutional review board approved this retrospective study and informed consent was waived. Records of 180 consecutives PICCs placed in patients hospitalized in the orthopedic surgery department were reviewed. All patients had bones infections necessitating a long-term intravenous antibiotics therapy. All PICC complications were recorded during the patient hospitalization: infection, thrombosis, occlusion, mechanical complication (accidental withdrawal, malposition, median nerve irritation).

RESULTS: One hundred and eighty PICCs were placed in 136 patients. Mean duration of catheterization was 21 days (total 3911 PICC-days). Thirty-six PICCs (20%) were removed due to complications (9.2 complications per 1000 PICC-days): 14 (8%) infections (one CRBSI (Pseudomonas aeruginosa), one septic phlebitis (P. aeruginosa), two exit-site infections and 10 CLABSIs), 11 (6%) occlusions, and 12 (7%) mechanical complications (10 accidental withdrawals, one malposition, one median nerve irritation). One patient had two complications simultaneously. After multivariate analysis, two risk factors were significantly associated with the overall occurrence of complications: age more than 70 years, p = 0.04 and number of lumen at least two.
CONCLUSIONS: Even in orthopedic patients with chronic orthopedic bone infection, PICCs have a low rate of complication. The increasing lumen number of the PICC is a potential risk factor in our series.

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