Evidence review: prevention and management of neutropenic sepsis in cancer patients

Riikonen 1993

Clinical features and settings	Children (1 to 16 years) with fever (>39°C or >38°C on two occasions within 4 hours) and neutropenia (ANC < 0.2×10^9 /L))caused by anti-cancer treatment. Study period 1989 to 1990.
Participants	96 FN episodes in 46 children. 57% had haematological cancers. Bacteraemia was found in 17/91 FN episodes.
Study design	Observational study, prospective. Unclear whether it was a consecutive or random sample. Finland.
Target condition and reference standard(s)	Documented infection: clinical and laboratory methods described in sufficient detail Bacteraemia: at least one positive peripheral blood culture or two positive cultures if Staphylococcus epidermidis was isolated.
Index and comparator tests	Tests were done on admission (and on days 1,2 and 3 of antimicrobial therapy). CRP: thresholds 20 and 50 mg/l (normal value 18 mg/l)
Follow-up	Test done daily, length of follow up not reported although results are available up to the 7th day of antimicrobial therapy.
Notes	Used figures from Phillips et al (2011) review for documented infection.