

ETIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS ENDOPHTHALMITIS --- A SIX-YEAR REVIEW

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Purpose: To investigate the etiological diagnosis of infectious endophthalmitis.

Materials and Methods: The medical records of all patients with infectious endophthalmitis at National Taiwan University Hospital between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 2002 were reviewed. The infectious endophthalmitis falls into three groups; postoperative, post-traumatic and endogenous. Intraocular culture results were obtained and analyzed.

Results: 81 (44.5%) of 186 eyes were culture-positive. The postoperative group included 132(71%) eyes, the post-traumatic group 19(10%) eyes, and the endogenous group 35(19%) eyes. The common microorganism isolates were 19 (38%) *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, 9(18%) *Staphylococci*, 5(10%) *Streptococci*

in postoperative group, 3 *Staphylococci*, 2 *fungi* in post-traumatic group, and 22(84%) *Klebsiella pneumoniae* originating from hepatobiliary infection, 3(12%) *fungi* from immunocompromised patients in endogenous group.

Conclusions: Biopsy of intraocular fluid/tissue is the only method that permits reliable diagnosis and treatment. Optimal sampling and rapidly transporting samples is crucial to increase the positive cultures. An increase in gram-negative bacteria in the postoperative group over the last 20 years was also observed in this study as well as in the literature. The most common microorganism isolates in the endogenous group were *Klebsiella pneumoniae*.

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