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Comparing the effectiveness of saline irrigation and Bactisure® solution in debridement surgery for acute periprosthetic joint infections

Submission date
24/10/2023

Recruitment status
No longer recruiting

Registration date
19/12/2023

Overall study status
Completed

Last Edited
19/11/2024

Condition category
Surgery

[_] Prospectively registered
[X] Protocol
[_] Statistical analysis plan
[_] Results
[_] Individual participant data
[_] Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims
Despite significant progress in orthopedic surgery, the prevalence of periprosthetic joint infections (PJI) remains persistent, and future increases are expected due to the rising number of joint arthroplasties. PJIs are intricately connected to biofilm-producing bacteria, which encase infected prostheses, impairing the effectiveness of antibiotics and the immune system. PJIs are categorized as acute (immature) or chronic (mature) based on the biofilm's maturity, each requiring distinct treatment approaches. Chronic PJIs typically necessitate the replacement of all prosthetic components to eliminate the infection. In contrast, acute PJIs with immature biofilms are traditionally managed with Debridement, Antibiotic, and Implant Retention (DAIR). However, to date, there hasn't been a conclusive direct clinical comparison (in vivo) demonstrating the superiority of one irrigation solution over others. Recently, there has been a growing interest in irrigation solutions with antibiofilm properties, exemplified by the pre-formulated Bactisure® irrigation solution, containing ethanol, acetic acid, sodium acetate, benzalkonium chloride, and sterile water. Importantly, this solution has exhibited promise in in vitro studies. The main objective of the research project is to evaluate the effectiveness (healing rate) of the pre-formulated Bactisure® irrigation solution in vivo, compared to a control group using saline solution, in cases of acute knee and/or hip periprosthetic infections treated with DAIR.

Who can participate?
Patients over 18 years old with acute or hematogenous single hip or knee PJI who are eligible for debridement, antibiotic and implant retention (DAIR) surgery.

What does the study involve?
The study involves patients with acute or hematogenous PJI who will undergo the standard DAIR surgery. The type of irrigation solution used during the surgery will depend on the assigned group, with Group 1 receiving a saline solution and Group 2 receiving the Bactisure® pre-formulated solution. The treatment allocation is determined through a scientific process known as randomization, in which there is a 50:50 chance of receiving either treatment. Importantly, the doctor will not have any involvement in this randomization process. It is worth

noting that apart from the irrigation solution, all other aspects of the surgical procedure are the same in both groups.
Furthermore, the study involves the collection of data from your medical records. Subsequently, clinical data needed for the clinical trial will be gathered during clinical follow-up appointments. These variables are typically evaluated in prosthetic infection surgery, and in addition to these, quality of life and functionality questionnaires will be administered.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?
While there is no financial compensation for participating in this study, involvement holds great significance. It has the potential to advance medical knowledge, leading to improvements in the treatment of patients with PJI. The implementation of the irrigation solution being studied could result in early infection eradication, thereby avoiding costly prosthetic replacements and reducing associated morbidity and mortality. Potential risks encompass complications associated with DAIR surgery, including incomplete resolution of infection, as well as standard surgical risks.

Where is the study run from?
Vall d'Hebron University Hospital (Spain)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?
Septembre 2022 to July 2025

Who is funding the study?
1. 2023 Dr Josep Trueta Scholarship offered by the Catalan Society of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology (SCCOT; Societat Catalana de Cirurgia Ortopèdica i Traumatologia) (Spain)
2. Septic and Reconstructive Surgery Unit within the Reconstructive Surgery of the Locomotor System Group at the Vall d'Hebron Institute of Research (VHIR) (Spain)
3. 2024 Carles Margarit Award from Vall d'Hebron Institute of Research (VHIR), recipient Rafael Oleo-Taltavull (Spain).
The funders had no role in the data collection, analysis, interpretation of the results, article writing, and decision to publish.

Who is the main contact?
Rafael Oleo, rafael.oleo@vallhebron.cat

Contact information

Type(s)
Public, Scientific, Principal investigator

Contact name
Mr Rafael Oleo

ORCID ID
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0978-9015

Contact details
Pg. Vall d'Hebron, 119-129
Barcelona
Spain

08035
+34 934 893 480
rafael.oleo@vallhebron.cat

Additional identifiers

Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)
Nil known

ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT)
Nil known

Protocol serial number
IPPA-DAIR-SP

Study information

Scientific Title
Efficacy of the preformulated irrigation solution Bactisure® in acute periprosthetic joint infection debridement surgery: a randomized controlled trial

Study objectives
This randomized clinical trial aims to determine whether the pre-formulated irrigation solution, Bactisure®, containing ethanol, acetic acid, sodium acetate, and benzalkonium chloride in sterile water, is more effective compared to saline irrigation as part of the debridement, antibiotic and implant retention (DAIR) procedure for acute periprosthetic joint infection (PJI). Effectiveness is defined as achieving lower reinfection rates.

Ethics approval required
Ethics approval required

Ethics approval(s)
approved 25/11/2022, Vall d'Hebron University Hospital Clinical Research Ethics Committee (CEIm) (Pg. Vall d'Hebron, 119-129, Barcelona, 08035, Spain; (+34) 934893891; ceic@vhir.org), ref: PR(AT)192/2022

Study design
Single-centre interventional single-blinded randomized controlled trial

Primary study design
Interventional

Study type(s)
Treatment, Efficacy

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Patients diagnosed with acute or hematogenous periprosthetic hip or knee infection (PJI) eligible for debridement, antibiotic and implant retention (DAIR) surgery

Interventions

This single-center randomized controlled trial comprises two groups allocated in a 1:1 ratio. To achieve balanced patient distribution, a restrictive randomization method will be employed, which entails pairing cases for randomization. The first case is assigned to either Group 1 or Group 2, and the second case is placed in the opposite group. This process will be repeated for each new pair of cases.

During the DAIR surgery irrigation will be using a low-pressure pulsatile lavage system with the assigned irrigation solution at pre-intervention randomization:
Intervention Group: 3 L of saline solution, followed by 1 L of Bactisure®, and then another 3 L of saline solution (7 L in total).
Comparator Group: 3 L of saline solution, followed by 3 L of saline solution, and then another 3 L of saline solution (9 L in total).

Intervention Type
Procedure/Surgery

Primary outcome(s)
Current primary outcome measure as if 22/07/2024:

Infection cure rate measured using the following criteria at the 12-month follow-up:
A case will be considered cured if it meets all of the following requirements:
1. Absence of local recurrence, indicated by the absence of dehiscence, exudation, or fistula
2. Radiographic evidence of no osteolysis
3. No ongoing suppressive antibiotic treatment
4. Absence of any re-interventions
5. No deaths related to periprosthetic infection

Previous primary outcome measure as of 07/02/2024:

Infection cure rate measured using the following criteria at the 6-month follow-up:
A case will be considered cured if it meets all of the following requirements:
1. Absence of local recurrence, indicated by the absence of dehiscence, exudation, or fistula
2. Radiographic evidence of no osteolysis
3. No ongoing suppressive antibiotic treatment
4. Absence of any re-interventions
5. No deaths related to periprosthetic infection

Previous primary outcome measure:

Infection cure rate measured using the following criteria at the 12-month follow-up:
A case will be considered cured if it meets all of the following requirements:
1. Absence of local recurrence, indicated by the absence of dehiscence, exudation, or fistula
2. Radiographic evidence of no osteolysis
3. No ongoing suppressive antibiotic treatment
4. Absence of any re-interventions
5. No deaths related to periprosthetic infection

Key secondary outcome(s))

Current secondary outcome measures as of 22/07/2024:

1. Length of hospital stay, in days, measured using medical records at one timepoint
2. Potential postoperative complications (e.g. infections, re-operations, osteolysis) at hospitalization or in ambulatory controls measured using medical records at one timepoint
3. Microorganism identified on perioperative cultures, at hospitalization measured using standard laboratory methods at one timepoint
4. Pain level measured using the Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) Pain Score at 2, 6 and 12 months postoperatively
5. Patient functionality status measured using the Harris Hip Score (HHS) or Oxford Knee Score (OHS) at 6 months and 12 months post-surgery

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Previous secondary outcome measures as of 07/02/2024:

1. Length of hospital stay, in days, measured using medical records at one timepoint
2. Potential postoperative complications (e.g. infections, re-operations, osteolysis) at hospitalization or in ambulatory controls measured using medical records at one timepoint
3. Microorganism identified on perioperative cultures, at hospitalization measured using standard laboratory methods at one timepoint
4. Pain level measured using the Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) Pain Score at 2, 4 and 6 months postoperatively
5. Patient functionality status measured using the Harris Hip Score (HHS) or Oxford Knee Score (OHS) at 4 months and 6 months post-surgery

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Previous secondary outcome measures:

1. Length of hospital stay, in days, measured using medical records at one timepoint
2. Potential postoperative complications (e.g. infections, re-operations, osteolysis) at hospitalization or in ambulatory controls measured using medical records at one timepoint
3. Microorganism identified on perioperative cultures, at hospitalization measured using standard laboratory methods at one timepoint
4. Pain level measured using the Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) Pain Score at 2, 6 and 12 months postoperatively
5. Patient functionality status measured using the Harris Hip Score (HHS) or Oxford Knee Score (OHS) at 6 months and 12 months post-surgery

Completion date
01/07/2025

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria
1. Age >18 years old
2. Patients with hip or knee prostheses
3. Diagnosis of periprosthetic joint infection according to the criteria established in the Second International Consensus on Musculoskeletal Infections
4. Acute PJI: <6 weeks since the initial arthroplasty surgery

5. Acute hematogenous PJI: <3 weeks from symptom onset, documented bacteremia (positive blood culture) with the same microorganism in joint fluid
6. No previous debridement surgeries
7. Surgery performed: DAIR

Participant type(s)
Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed
No

Age group
Adult

Lower age limit
18 years

Sex
All

Total final enrolment
50

Key exclusion criteria
1. Patients who do not voluntarily and without coercion agree to participate in this clinical trial
2. Patients under 18 years of age
3. Prosthetic reinfections or a history of multiple debridements
4. Known sensitivity or allergic reaction to ethanol, acetic acid, sodium acetate, or benzalkonium chloride
5. Diagnosis of Chronic PJI: the presence of fistula or >6 weeks
6. Multiple infected implants (>1)
7. Medically unfit for DAIR surgery
8. Pregnancy
9. Legal incapacity

Date of first enrolment
01/12/2022

Date of final enrolment
01/12/2024

Locations

Countries of recruitment
Spain

Study participating centre
Vall d'Hebron University Hospital
Pg. Vall d'Hebron, 119-129

Barcelona
Spain
08035

Sponsor information

Organisation
Vall d'Hebron Institut de Recerca

ROR
https://ror.org/01d5vx451

Funder(s)

Funder type
Research organisation

Funder Name
Catalan Society of Orthopedic Surgery and Traumatology

Funder Name
Fundació Institut de Recerca Hospital Universitari Vall d'Hebron

Alternative Name(s)
Vall d'Hebron University Hospital, Vall d'Hebron Hospital Research Foundation, Vall d'Hebron Institut de Recerca, VHIR, FIR-HUVH

Funding Body Type
Private sector organisation

Funding Body Subtype
Trusts, charities, foundations (both public and private)

Location
Spain

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets created and/or analyzed during the current study will be accessible upon a reasonable and justified request. To obtain access to the data, please contact Rafael Oleo (rafael.oleo@vallhebron.cat).

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Protocol article		16/11/2024	19/11/2024	Yes	No
Participant information sheet	version 3		02/11/2023	No	Yes
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes