

Epidemiology and Management of invasive infections among people who Use drugs (EMU)

ACTRN12622001173785

Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	Monash University
Enrollment	146 participants

Plain Language Summary

People who inject drugs are at serious risk of developing severe, life-threatening infections — including infections of the heart valves, spine, bones, and joints. When these infections occur, they require prolonged courses of antibiotics, often given intravenously, and completing the full course of treatment is critical for a good outcome. However, many of these patients face barriers to completing treatment when discharged from hospital.

This study is observing how these serious infections are currently managed across multiple Australian hospitals and what affects whether patients complete their planned antibiotic treatment. It involves two components: an audit collecting anonymised data on all admitted patients who inject drugs and have invasive infections, and a separate cohort study following consenting participants for 30 and 90 days after discharge to track their recovery.

You may be eligible if you are 18 or older, have injected drugs within the last six months, and are being admitted to hospital for a serious bacterial or fungal infection such as endocarditis (heart valve infection), bone infection, spinal abscess, or blood infection. You would not be eligible for the cohort follow-up portion if you are unable to give consent or cannot communicate in English, or do not have access to a telephone.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (10)

- Subjects will be eligible for this study if they:
- Are adult patients aged at least 18 years
- Have a history of current intravenous drug use (IDU). Current IDU defined as use within six months prior to admission.
- Are admitted to hospital for management of invasive bacterial or fungal infection (proven or presumed).
- Invasive infections are defined by treating physician diagnosis (proven or presumed) of the following infections:
... and 5 more (see full listing online)

Exclusion (9)

- EMU-Audit:
- Patients with acute bacterial skin and skin structure infections (ABSSSI) only and no evidence of invasive infection
- Patients admitted for management of viral infection only (HAV/ HBV/ HCV/ HIV) and no evidence of bacterial or fungal infection
- Patients admitted for management of viral or bacterial meningitis only with no evidence of above invasive infections
- Patients admitted for a reason unrelated to an acute infection (such as trauma), who subsequently develop an invasive infection
... and 4 more (see full listing online)

Locations (1 total)

The Alfred - Melbourne, VIC, Australia

<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12622001173785>

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