P12 Antibiotic prescribing in hospitalized patients with COVID-19 as a function of inflammatory markers in Wave 1 versus Wave 2: a systematic review

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Background: Less than 10% of hospitalized cases in the United Kingdom during the first wave of the pandemic had bacterial coinfection, but approximately 75% were prescribed antibiotics contrary to NICE guidelines. We have evaluated the relationship between antibiotic prescribing and biomarker use, in hospitalized adult patients with COVID-19 in the UK, as synthesis defined by the pandemic timeline, particularly during ‘Wave 2’ is lacking. Clinical outcomes were compared in the context of antimicrobial stewardship. C-reactive protein (CRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), procalcitonin (PCT) and white cell count (WCC) were selected based on clinical relevance.