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Citation for final published version:

Tabah, Alexis, Buetti, Niccolò, Staiquily, Quentin, Ruckly, Stéphane, Akova, Murat, Aslan, Abdullah Tarik, Leone, Marc, Conway Morris, Andrew, Bassetti, Matteo, Arvaniti, Kostoula, Lipman, Jeffrey, Ferrer, Ricard, Qiu, Haibo, Paiva, José-Artur, Pova, Pedro, De Bus, Liesbet, De Waele, Jan, Zand, Farid, Gurjar, Mohan, Alsisi, Adel, Abidi, Khalid, Bracht, Hendrik, Hayashi, Yoshiro, Jeon, Kyeongman, Elhadi, Muhammed, Barbier, François, Timsit, Jean-François, Tabah, Alexis, Pollock, Hamish, Margetts, Ben, Young, Meredith, Bhadange, Neeraj, Tyler, Steven, Ledtischke, Anne, Finnis, Mackenzie, Ledtischke, Anne, Finnis, Mackenzie, Dwivedi, Jyotsna, Saxena, Manoj, Biradar, Vishwanath, Soar, Natalie, Sarode, Vineet, Brewster, David, Regli, Adrian, Weeda, Elizabeth, Ahmed, Samiul, Fourie, Cheryl, Laupland, Kevin, Ramanan, Mahesh, Walsham, James, Meyer, Jason, Litton, Edward, Palermo, Anna Maria, Yap, Timothy, Eroglu, Ege, Attokaran, Antony George, Jaramillo, CFhavala, Nafees, Khalid Mahmood Khan, Rashid, Nurhikmahtul Aqilah Haji Abd, Walid, Haji Adi Muhamad Ibnu, Mon, Tomas, Moorthi, P. Dhakshina, Sudhirschandra, Shah, Sridharan, Dhadappa Damodar, Haibo, Qiu, Jianfeng, Xie, Wei-Hua, Lu, Zhen, Wang, Qian, Chuanyun, Luo, Jili, Chen, Xiaomei, Wang, Hao, Zhao, Peng, Zhao, Juan, Wusi, Qiu, Mingmin, Chen, Xu, Lei, Yin, Chengfen, Wang, Ruilan, Wang, Jinfeng, Yin, Yongjie, Zhang, Min, Ye, Jilu, Hu, Chungfang, Zhou, Suming, Huang, Min, Yan, Jing, Wang, Yan, Qin, Bingyu, Ye, Ling, Weifeng, Xie, Peije, Li, Geng, Nan, Hayashi, Yoshiro, Karumai, Toshiyuki, Yamasaki, Masaki, Hashimoto, Satoru, Hosokawa, Koji, Makino, Jun, Matsuyoshi, Takeo, Kuriyama, Akira, Shigemitsu, Hidenobu, Mishima, Yuka, Nagashima, Michio, Yoshida, Hideki, Fujitani, Shigeki, Omori, Koichiro, Rinka, Hiroshi, Saito, Hiroki, Atobe, Kaori, Kato, Hideaki, Takaki, Shunsuke, Hasan, M. Shahnaz, Jamaluddin, Muhammad Fadhil Hadi, Pheng, Lee See, Visvalingam, Sheshendrasurian, Liew, Mun Thing, Wong, Siong Ling Danny, Fong, Kean Khang, Rahman, Hamidah Bt Abdul, Noor, Zuraini Md, Tong, Lee Kok, Azman, Abd. Hamid, Mazlan, Mohd Zulfakar, Ali, Saedah, Jeon, Kyeongman, Lee, Sang-Min, Park, Sunghoon, Park, Seung Yong, Lim, Sung Yoon, Goh, Qing Yuan, Ng, Shin Yi, Lie, Sui An, Kwa, Andrea Lay Hoon, Goh, Ken Junyang, Li, Andrew Yunkai, Ong, Caroline Yu Ming, Lim, Jia Yan, Quah, Jessica Lishan, Ng, Kangqi, Ng, Louis Xiang Long, Yeh, Yu Chang, Chou, Nai-Kuan, Cia, Cong-Tat, Hu, Ting-Yu, Kuo, Li-Kuo, Ku, Shih-Chi, Wongsurakiat, Phunsup, Apichatbutr, Yutthana, Chiewroongroj, Supattra, Nadeem, Rashid, Houfi, Ashraf El, Alsisi, Adel, Elhadidy, Amr, Barsoum, Mina, Osman, Nermin, Mostafa, Tarek, Elbahnasawy, Mohamed, Saber, Ahmed, Aldhalia, Amer, Elmandouh, Omar, Elsayed, Ahmed, Elbadawy, Merihan A., Awad, Ahmed K., Hemeed, Hanan M., Zand, Farid, Ouhadian, Maryam, Borsi, Seyed Hamid, Mehraban, Zahra, Kashipazha, Davood, Ahmadi, Fatemeh, Savaie, Mohsen, Soltani, Farhad, Rashidi, Mahboobeh, Baghbanian, Reza, Javaherforoosh, Fatemeh, Amiri, Fereshteh, Kiani, Arash, Zargar, Mohammad Amin, Mahmoodpoor, Ata, Aalinezhad, Fatemeh, Dabiri, Gholamreza, Sabetian, Golnar, Sarshad, Hakimeh, Masjedi, Mansoor, Tajvidi, Ramin, Tabatabaei, Seyed Mohammad Nasirodin, Ahmed, Abdullah Khudhur, Singer, Pierre, Kagan, Ilya, Rigler, Merav, Belman, Daniel, Levin, Phillip, Harara, Belal, Diab, Adei, Abilama, Fayeze, Ibrahim, Rebecca, Fares, Aya, Buimsaedah, Ahmad, Gamra, Marwa, Aqeelah, Ahmed, AliAli, Almajdoub Mohammed, Homaïdan, Ahmed Gaber Sadik, Almiqlash, Bushray, Bilkhayr, Hala, Bouhuwaish, Ahmad, Taher, Ahmed Sa, Almiqlash, Eman, Abousnina, Fathi A., Hdada, Aisha Khaled, Jobran, Rania, Hasan, Hayat Ben, Hasan, Rana, Jobran Ben, Serghini, Issam, Seddiki, Rachid, Boukatta, Brahim, Kanjaa, Nabil, Mouhssine, Douma, Waleed, Maazouzi Ahmed, Dendane, Tarek, Zeggwagh, Amine Ali, Housni, Brahim, Younes, Oujidi, Hachimi, Abdelhamid, Ghannam, A., Belkhadir, Z., Amro, Sarah, Jayyab, Mustafa Abu, Hssain, Ali Ait,

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Publishers page: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00134-022-06944-2>

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Epidemiology and outcomes of hospital-acquired bloodstream infections in intensive care unit patients: the EUROBACT-2 international cohort study.

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This is a copy of the manuscript as accepted for publication – the online version can be found on

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00134-022-06944-2>

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Abstract

Purpose: In the critically ill, hospital-acquired bloodstream infections (HA-BSI) are associated with significant mortality. Granular data are required for optimizing management, developing guidelines and clinical trials.

Methods: Prospective international cohort study of adult patients (≥ 18 years of age) with HA-BSI treated in Intensive care units (ICUs) between June 2019 and February 2021.

Results: 2600 patients from 333 ICUs in 52 countries were included. 78% HA-BSI were ICU-acquired. Median SOFA score was 8 [IQR 5; 11] at HA-BSI diagnosis. Most frequent sources of infection included pneumonia (26.7%) and intravascular catheters (26.4%). Most frequent pathogens were Gram-negative bacteria (59.0%), predominantly *Klebsiella spp.* (27.9%), *Acinetobacter spp.* (20.3%), *Escherichia coli* (15.8%), and *Pseudomonas spp.* (14.3%). Carbapenem resistance was present in 37.8%, 84.6%, 7.4%, and 33.2%, respectively. Difficult-to-treat resistance (DTR) present in 23.5% and pan-drug resistance in 1.5%. Antimicrobial therapy was deemed adequate within 24 hours for 51.5%. Antimicrobial resistance was associated with longer delays to adequate antimicrobial therapy. Source control was needed in 52.5% but not achieved in 18.2%. Mortality was 37.1%, and only 16.1% had been discharged from hospital by day-28.

Interpretation: HA-BSI was frequently caused by Gram-negative, carbapenem resistant and DTR pathogens. Antimicrobial resistance led to delays in adequate antimicrobial therapy. Mortality was high, and at day-28 only a minority of the patients were discharged alive from the hospital. Prevention of antimicrobial resistance and focusing on adequate antimicrobial therapy and source control are important to optimize patient management and outcomes.

Take Home message – key points

Hospital-acquired bloodstream infections were frequently caused by Gram-negative, carbapenem resistant or with difficult to treat resistance pathogens. Antibiotic resistance was associated with delays to antimicrobial therapy. Mortality was 37% at day-28.

Introduction

Hospital-acquired bloodstream infections (HA-BSI) are the healthcare associated infection causing the highest burden in disability-adjusted life years [1]. They are relatively frequent in Intensive Care Unit (ICU) patients and are associated with 36% to 42% mortality [2-5]. In 2012, the Eurobact-1

international cohort study highlighted the prevalence of multidrug-resistant organisms and its association with higher risk of death in intensive care unit (ICU) patients with HA-BSI. In recent years, worrisome increases in antimicrobial resistance have been highlighted by agencies and scientific societies worldwide [6-8]. Indeed, antimicrobial resistance is associated with delays to adequate antimicrobial therapy, increased mortality, resource utilisation and costs [2, 9, 10]. It leads to considerable increases in the use of broad-spectrum antimicrobials which in turn exacerbates the problem by selecting antimicrobial resistant micro-organisms. Given the frequency of sepsis, septic shock, and the high mortality in ICU patients with HA-BSI, large international studies are essential to identify potentially modifiable factors of poor prognosis. These data may inform patient care, the development of guidelines, and the design of clinical trials.

The Eurobact 2 study was designed to update the epidemiology and main factors associated with day-28 mortality in ICU patients with HA-BSI by prospectively collecting granular center, patient, pathogen, treatment, and outcome data from ICUs worldwide.

Methods

Study design

Eurobact 2 was a prospective international cohort study, registered with ClinicalTrials.org (NCT03937245) and reported in accordance with the STrengthening the Reporting of OBservational studies in Epidemiology (STROBE) guidelines [11]. The study was conducted across the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. We reported the differences in the epidemiology of HA-BSI in patients with COVID-19 separately [12]. Initial ethical approval as a low-risk research project with waiver of individual consent was granted by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital, Queensland, Australia (LNR/2019/QRBW/48376). Each study site then obtained ethical and governance approvals according to national and/or local regulations.

Setting

Endorsement, financial, and logistical support were obtained from the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM) and the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) study Group for Infections in Critically Ill Patients (ESGCIP). The operational committee (AT, NB, FB, SR, QS, CD, JFT) oversaw study operations under the responsibility of the primary investigator (AT). Logistics were provided by the OUTCOMEREA non-profit research group (Paris, France). National coordinators recruited participating ICUs, applied for ethical and regulatory approvals, and facilitated communication within their country.

Participants

We included adult (≥ 18 years of age) patients with a HA-BSI treated in the ICU.

HA-BSI was defined as a positive blood culture sampled more than 48 hours after hospital admission. Treatment in the ICU was defined as the blood culture having been either sampled in the ICU or the patient having been transferred to the ICU for the treatment of the HA-BSI. Detailed definitions are available in the electronic supplemental material (ESM).

For usually considered as common contaminants (list provided in the ESM), at least 2 blood cultures with the same antimicrobial susceptibility profile, or strong clinical grounds that it was not a contaminant (*e.g.*, intravascular catheters or other infected material proven as a source for the HA-BSI) were mandatory. All possible contaminants were carefully reviewed for eligibility by the operational committee in collaboration with the local investigators and excluded if the above criteria were not met.

Data collection

Centers prospectively recruited patients between the 1st of June 2019 and the 30th of January 2021, with a minimum of 10 consecutive patients or for a 3-month period, which on request could be extended. Hospital and ICU characteristics were recorded. Patient data were retrieved from the

hospital charts without additional tests or interventions. Demographic data, the main diagnosis at ICU admission, and comorbidities were collected. Geographical regions and income categories were defined using the United Nations M49 standard [13]. Severity of illness was assessed at ICU admission by the Simplified Acute Physiology Score II (SAPS II) [14], and at HA-BSI diagnosis by the Sequential Organ Failure Assessment (SOFA) score [15]. Given all included patients had an infection, sepsis was defined at HA-BSI diagnosis according to Sepsis III criteria by a SOFA score ≥ 2 , and septic shock as sepsis plus vasopressor use plus lactate >2 mmol/L [16]. We focused on each patient's first episode of HA-BSI, collected pathogen with antibiogram, date and time of blood culture sampling and followed patients for 28 days, until hospital discharge, or death. Blood culture sampling represented the time zero of the study from which all timings were calculated (e.g., time to adequate antimicrobial therapy). Sources of HA-BSI were recorded in order of clinical likelihood according to the treating clinician. Primary HA-BSI was defined as no clear portal of entry or source of infection. Antimicrobials were collected from 2 days prior to HA-BSI to ICU discharge or day-28 follow-up. Carbapenem resistance for *Enterobacterales* was defined as resistance to at least one carbapenem [17]. Difficult-to-treat resistance (DTR) was defined as resistance to all first line antimicrobials [18], and pan-drug-resistance (PDR) as resistance to all tested antimicrobials. To avoid over-reporting DTR and PDR for pathogens with incompletely reported antibiograms, the assessment required availability of antimicrobial susceptibility testing for at least one fluoroquinolone, one cephalosporin, one carbapenem, plus polymyxins for PDR. DTR and PDR were assessed for *Enterobacterales*, *Pseudomonas spp.*, and *Acinetobacter spp.* Adequate antimicrobial therapy was defined as receiving at least 1 antimicrobial with in-vitro activity for the pathogen at the considered timepoint, with adequacy of antimicrobial selection, dosing and administration manually reviewed for all infections and sources of HA-BSI. Time to adequate antimicrobial therapy was defined as the time between sampling of the first positive blood culture and receipt of at least one adequate antibiotic for each pathogen. Source control was reported according to the source and intervention, with adequacy assessed by the investigator.

Statistical analysis

As detailed in the ESM, and to ensure consistency, database lock was made on the 12/08/2021 after answering of all queries by the investigators, crosschecking with electronic controls, and careful reading of all the case-report forms by the operational committee.

Linearity to the logit for continuous variables was checked with generalized additive models. Non-linear variables were discretised into categorical variables based on quartiles. Continuous variables were expressed as medians (interquartile range [IQR]) and categorical variables as absolute frequencies and percentage. Differences were tested by the Wilcoxon rank-sum test for continuous variables and Fisher's exact test for categorical variables.

To identify factors associated with day-28 death, we built a three-tiered hierarchical logistic mixed model and a subdistribution hazard frailty model that considered ICU discharge as a competing risk, as suggested by Fine and Gray [19]. Both are presented in the ESM as exploratory analyses, alongside sensitivity analysis excluding COVID-19 patients and investigating the role of carbapenem resistance in place of DTR. All analyses were two-sided with p-values less than 0.05 deemed statistically significant. Statistical analysis was done using SAS 9.4 statistical software (SAS Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA) and R project version 4.04.

Results

Study Population

We enrolled 2600 patients from 333 ICUs in 52 countries or territories (ESM eFigures 1 – 2, Table 1 and eTables 2-3). Most ICUs were in public (83.8%), teaching (82.6%) hospitals, with a mixed medical-surgical (79.5%) and general case mix (91.7%). Median [IQR] ICU size was 14 [10; 21] ventilator-equivalent beds with wide variability in infrastructure and factors related to antimicrobial stewardship.

ICUs recruited a median [IQR] of 6 [3,10] patients. Most patients were male (63.7%), median [IQR] age was 64 [52;73] years, and 74.8% had at least one comorbidity (Table 1 and eTable 2). Most common ICU admission diagnoses were non-COVID-19-related respiratory failure (21.2%), sepsis or septic shock (20.4%), and COVID-19 (12.9%).

Median [IQR] time from hospital admission to HA-BSI was 13 [8;25] days. Most HA-BSI (78.5%) were ICU-acquired (median [IQR] time from ICU admission to diagnosis, 10 [5; 18] days). The median [IQR] SOFA score was 8 [5; 11] at HA-BSI diagnosis, with 4% of the patients not meeting the criteria for sepsis, while 64.2% and 31.7% met the criteria for sepsis and septic shock, respectively (Table 2).

Sources of infection were predominantly respiratory (pneumonia) (26.7%) and intravascular catheters (26.4%), followed by the abdomen (15.1%). While primary HA-BSI were common (16.3%), one third of the patients (32.8%) had more than one possible source of HA-BSI.

Pathogens

Most (88.8%) blood cultures were mono-microbial, with 10.0% containing two, and 1.2% more than two pathogens, resulting in a total of 2927 bacterial and fungal isolates. Pathogens were most commonly Gram-negative (1726/2927; 59.0%), with a predominance of *Klebsiella spp.* (482/1726; 27.9%), *Acinetobacter spp.* (350/1726; 20.3%), *Escherichia coli* (272/1726; 15.8%) and *Pseudomonas spp.* (247/1726; 14.3%) (Table 4 and ESM eFigure 3). Carbapenem resistance was encountered in 37.8% (182/482) *Klebsiella spp.*, 84.6% (296/350) *Acinetobacter spp.*, 7.4% (20/272) *Escherichia coli* and 33.2% (82/247) *Pseudomonas spp.* When analysing Enterobacterales, *Pseudomonas spp.* and *Acinetobacter spp.*, DTR was present in 23.5% (351/1492) and PDR in 1.5% (23/1492). Gram-positive pathogens (910/2927; 31.1%) were mainly *Enterococcus spp.* (314/910, 34.5%) and coagulase-negative staphylococci (273/910, 30%). Of the 27.6% (251/910) *Staphylococcus aureus*, 37.1% (93/251) were methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). There were 2.1% (61/2927) strict anaerobe bacteria, and 7.9% (230/2927) fungi of which 39.6% (91/230) were *Candida albicans*, 57.8% (133/230) non-albicans *Candida spp.*, and 6 (2.6%) other fungi.

Antimicrobial therapy and source control

Adequate antimicrobial therapy was received by 51.5% within 24 hours of blood culture sampling. As shown in figure 1, time to adequate antimicrobial therapy increased with antimicrobial resistance ($p<0.0001$). The 3 antimicrobials most frequently administered in the 24 hours following HA-BSI diagnosis included meropenem 463/2600 (17.8%), piperacillin/tazobactam 380/2600 (14.6%), and vancomycin 266/2600 (10.2%). They were deemed adequate in 275/463 (59.4%), 244/380 (64.2%), and 132/266 (49.6%) prescriptions, respectively. Source control was deemed to be required for 52.5% of the patients and was effectively achieved in 81.8% of these, after a median of 24.5 [IQR 1;72] hours.

Mortality

By day-28, 966 (37.1%) patients had died, 91.0% in the ICU and 9.0% after ICU discharge. Death was preceded by a decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment for 268 (27.7%). At that time point, 38.7% of the survivors were still in the ICU, 35.7% had been discharged from the ICU, and 25.6% had been discharged from the hospital, which represents 16.1% of the total cohort.

Multiple factors were associated with day-28 mortality in the univariable analysis (Tables 1 to 3). At center level these included medical ICUs, lower availability of clinical pharmacists and of TDM for aminoglycosides or vancomycin. Mortality was higher in patients with co-morbidities, medical and COVID-19 admissions, and those with higher severity of illness, including requirements for organ supportive therapy. Higher mortality was found in early ICU-acquired HA-BSI, respiratory sources, DTR Gram-negative bacteria or fungus, and patients who did not receive adequate antimicrobials or for whom source control was required but not achieved. There was no statistically significant association between time to adequate antimicrobial therapy and day-28 mortality.

Factors associated with death in the multivariable hierarchical logistic model and with an increased subdistribution hazard ratio (sHR) of death at day-28 in a competitive risk model are shown in eTable 5. In summary, factors that were statistically significant in both models included infrequent clinical

pharmacist consultation, older age, severity of illness at HA-BSI, DTR Gram negative bacteria, and not achieving source control for patients who required an intervention. Conversely, achieving source control was protective in both analyses.

Discussion

EUROBACT-2 provides an update on the epidemiology and prognostic factors of HA-BSI in the ICU by including 2600 patients from 333 ICUs in 5 continents. We report substantial day-28 mortality, especially in HA-BSI caused by DTR pathogens, patients with septic shock, and those who never received adequate antibiotics or source control. There was a broad range of sources of infection and pathogens. Gram-negative bacteria were frequently carbapenem resistant or DTR. Antibiotic resistance was associated with longer delays to adequate antibiotics. Center data showed important variability of service availability including for the variables related to antimicrobial stewardship.

To our knowledge, the Eurobact 2 study represents the largest international study of HA-BSI s in ICU patients. Few large international studies have investigated this population, which limits possibilities for direct comparisons with our data. We conducted the EUROBACT-1 study in 2010, with a similar methodology but a smaller group of ICUs [2]. The EPIC III point prevalence study investigated the prevalence and outcomes of ICU patients with infections in 2017 and was not limited to hospital-acquired or bloodstream infections [3]. As shown in table 4, the two Eurobact studies showed a predominance of Gram-negative bacteria. In comparison, bloodstream pathogens from the EPIC III cohort showed a higher proportion of Gram-positive bacteria, with more *Staphylococcus spp.* but less *Enterococcus spp.* The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) epidemiological report of hospital-acquired infections in the ICU, computed from 2017 data, showed a predominance of Gram-positive pathogens in HA-BSI. There were 23.6% coagulase-negative *staphylococci* and 14.9% *Enterococcus spp.*, followed by 12.4% *Klebsiella spp.* [20]. While some of these differences may be explained by the inclusion of community-acquired infections in EPIC III, the lower proportion coagulase-negative *staphylococci* in our study is probably secondary to the careful

review of each case and discussion with the investigators, leading to the exclusion of all potential blood culture contaminants that did not meet the inclusion criteria. Between EUROBACT-1 and 2, the proportion of MRSA has decreased by 10%, and the proportion of vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE) has remained stable. Interestingly, there has been an increase in the proportion of non-albicans *Candida* spp., which have now become dominant. Carbapenem resistance has substantially increased, especially for *Enterobacter* spp. and *Acinetobacter* spp., leading to a substantial proportion of DTR in Gram-negative pathogens, and up to 1.6% PDR for *Pseudomonas* spp. and 2.3% for *Acinetobacter* spp. In keeping with previous reports, and as shown in eTables 5 and 7, carbapenem resistance and DTR in Gram-negative bacteremia were associated with mortality, highlighting the importance of strategies aimed at preventing and treating infections caused by multidrug resistant pathogens [2, 18, 21, 22]. A detailed description of the of the pathogens causing HA-BSI in the COVID-19 population is reported separately [12].

Ten years after the first Eurobact study, we observed comparable delays to adequate antimicrobial therapy as around half of the patients received such within 24h of blood culture sampling. Antimicrobial resistance was associated with delays. In the setting of widespread resistance to broad-spectrum antibiotics, molecular rapid diagnostic testing may be a key for earlier adequate antimicrobial treatment [23, 24]. That delays to adequate antimicrobial therapy were not associated with day-28 mortality may be subsequent to multiple confounders and should be interpreted with caution. Indeed, the relationship between time to antimicrobial therapy and mortality in observational research is complicated [25]. On one hand, the clinical impression of severity may be a driver for earlier administration of broader spectrum antimicrobials to patients with an increased risk of death. Moreover, a non-negligible proportion of patients with sepsis may inexorably die, regardless of the antibiotic treatment. Others may have died before antibiogram results could be acted upon, eliminating an opportunity for antimicrobial adequacy. On the other hand, patients identified at lower risk may have been treated later, when positive microbiology was reported [26]. Another source of immortal-time bias may be present as some patients with HA-BSI may have never

been diagnosed or included in the study. Some may have died before they could be transferred to the ICU, underestimating mortality, while others may have rapidly improved, before ICU admission, overestimating mortality of HA-BSI. These findings do not challenge the recommendation for early adequate antimicrobial therapy for patients with sepsis or septic shock [27]. Indeed, while we need to avoid antibiotic overuse and its associated harms [28], early adequate antimicrobial therapy is one of the most important interventions for HA-BSI [27].

How can these observations improve clinical practice? The exploratory analysis suggests a protective effect of source control and a possible detrimental effect of infrequent clinical pharmacist consultation. These highlight the importance of a multidisciplinary approach for managing critically ill patients with HA-BSI, and by extension, severe infections. Hospitals require integrated pathways, protocols, and educational programs targeting recognition, diagnosis, and treatment of sepsis, including prediction of antimicrobial resistance, antimicrobial prescription, and source control [27, 29, 30]. The optimisation of antimicrobial therapy in critically ill patients involves a multifaceted approach. Pharmacodynamic/pharmacokinetic optimisation and adequate exposure at the source of infection requires optimal dosing and delivery, considering potential interactions, modified volume of distribution, and decreased or augmented renal clearance [31]. Integrated antimicrobial stewardship programs may facilitate clinically relevant advice and recommendations on antibiotic choice, dosing, mode of delivery, indications for therapeutic drug monitoring, and a discussion on source control [6, 27, 32].

There are important limitations to this study. Firstly, ICUs were predominantly from the Europe and Central Asia and the East Asia and Pacific regions, and from high-income and upper-middle-income countries, thus limiting the generalizability of our results. Secondly, we started data collection before and continued during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. This likely influenced the patient population, microorganism distribution, antimicrobial resistance and mortality [33, 34]. Some ICUs were unable to start or complete the study, leading to multiple exclusions. However, we

report similar patient severity, pathogen distribution, and mortality to the Eurobact 1 study, validating the current report. Thirdly, pathogen identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing relied on each laboratory, with possible differences in interpretation leading to inconsistencies. The patients at risk of late onset BSI had to stay in the ICU for more than 7 days to be exposed to this risk, leading to potential selection bias. The method used for the multivariable analysis led to poor calibration, which is now presented in the ESM. Moreover, data collection was performed by individual investigators in 330 ICUs, without on-site monitoring. We improved the risk of inconsistencies with online checks through the electronic case report file, and by closely monitoring data quality and coherence for each case-report.

Interpretation

HA-BSI in ICU patients was mainly caused by Gram-negative bacteria, with widespread carbapenem resistance and DTR. Antibiotic resistance was associated with longer delays to adequate antimicrobial therapy. HA-BSI was associated with 37.1% mortality, and by day-28 only 16.1% of the patients had been discharged alive from the hospital. Multifaceted programs to decrease multidrug resistance as well as prevent, recognize, and manage HA-BSI, with a focus on antimicrobial adequacy and source control are suggested to improve patient management and outcomes.

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Alexis Tabah, Niccolò Buetti, Jean-François Timsit, Quentin Staiquly, and Stéphane Ruckly had full access to all the data in the study and take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.

All the authors approved the manuscript in its final format.

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Group Information: The Eurobact 2 national coordinators, scientific committee and investigators are listed in the electronic supplement.

Additional Contributions: We thank Guy Francois, Division of Scientific Affairs and Research of the ESICM for his unvaluable assistance in recruiting participating ICUs. We thank the health care workers at each study site, laboratory, and beyond that contributed to the Eurobact-2 study and acknowledge their work during the initial waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank the patients who participated in the Eurobact-2 study. We thank Professor Andrea Marshall, PhD, and Doctor Mahesh Ramanan, MBBS, FCICM for proofreading and editing the manuscript.

Availability of data and material. The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the OUTCOMEREA organisation on reasonable request.

Competing Interests

Conflict of Interest Disclosures: Associate professor Alexis Tabah has nothing to disclose, Doctor Niccolò Buetti has nothing to disclose, Quentin Staiquly has nothing to disclose, Stéphane Ruckly has nothing to disclose, Professor Murat Akova reports honoraria paid to his university for educational activities by Pfizer, Sanofi, MSD and Astra Zeneca, Doctor Abdullah Tarik Aslan has nothing to disclose, Professor Marc Leone reported consulting and lecture fees from Amomed Pharma, Aspen, LFB and Gilead, Doctor Andrew Conway Morris has received payment for speaking on behalf of Boston Scientific and sits on the Scientific Advisory Board of Cambridge Infection Diagnostics, a start-up seeking to develop novel diagnostics for infectious diseases, Professor Matteo Bassetti received advisory board, speaker activities from Angelini, Bayer, Biomerieux, Cidara, Gilead, Menarini, MSD, Pfizer, Roche, Shionogi, study grants from: Angelini, Shionogi, Cidara, Gilead, Pfizer, and MSD, Doctor Kostoula Arvaniti has nothing to disclose, Professor Jeffrey Lipman has received lecture fees and honoraria from MSD, Professor Ricard Ferrer reports Payment for lectures, speakers bureaus or advisory boards from Grifols, MSD, Pfizer, Gilead, Shionogi, Thermofisher, Hill Rom, AOP Health, BD, Doctor Haibo Qiu has nothing to disclose, Professor José Artur Paiva reports consulting, advisory boards or lectures fees and honoraria for MSD, Pfizer, Astra-Zeneca, Gilead, Jansen, Cepheid, AOP Orphan Pharmaceuticals, Professor Pedro Póvoa reported advisory boards participation for Gilead, Technophage and Sanofi, lectures fees from MSD, Gilead and Pfizer, and research grant from Abionc, Doctor Liesbet De Bus has nothing to disclose, Professor Jan de Waele has consulted for Pfizer, MSD (honoraria paid to institution), Professor Farid Zand has nothing to disclose, Professor

Mohan Gurjar has nothing to disclose, Doctor Adel Alsisi has nothing to disclose, Professor Khalid Abidi has nothing to disclose, Professor Hendrik Bracht has nothing to disclose, Doctor Yoshiro Hayashi has nothing to disclose, Professor Kyeongman Jeon has nothing to disclose, Doctor Muhammed Elhadi has nothing to disclose, Doctor François Barbier reported consulting and lecture fees, conference invitation from MSD and lecture fees from BioMérieux, Professor Jean-François Timsit reported advisory boards participation for Merck, Gilead, Beckton-Dickinson, Pfizer, Shinogi, Medimmune, Paratek, research grants from Merck, Pfizer, Thermofischer.

Other acknowledgements: Professor Jan de Waele is a senior clinical investigator funded by the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO, Ref. 1881020N). Doctor Andrew Conway Morris is supported by a Medical Research Council Clinician Scientist Fellowship (MR/V006118/1). Doctor Niccolò Buetti received a fellowship grant (Grant number: P4P4PM_194449) from the Swiss National Science Foundation

The Eurobact 2 study was endorsed by the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), the infection section of the ESCIM and the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) study Group for Infections in Critically Ill Patients (ESGCIP), with scientific input of the OUTCOMEREA network.

Funding

Research grants were obtained from the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (ESICM), the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) study Group for Infections in Critically Ill Patients (ESGCIP), the Norva Dahlia foundation and the Redcliffe Hospital Private Practice Trust Fund.

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Eurobact 2, tables and figures

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Table 1 Characteristics of participating ICUs and association with day-28 patient mortality.

| Characteristics * | All ICUs (n=333)* | All patients (N= 2600) | Dead on D28 (n= 966) | Alive on D28 (n= 1634) | OR [95% CI] | P value |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Geographic region | | | | | | 0.824 |
| Europe and Central Asia | 184 (55.3) | 1775 (68.3) | 689 (71.3) | 1086 (66.5) | 1 | |
| East Asia and Pacific | 69 (20.7) | 412 (15.8) | 127 (13.1) | 285 (17.4) | 0.83 [0.54; 1.27] | |
| Middle East and North Africa | 48 (14.4) | 268 (10.3) | 91 (9.4) | 177 (10.8) | 0.96 [0.61; 1.54] | |
| South Asia | 14 (4.2) | 54 (2.1) | 24 (2.5) | 30 (1.8) | 1.29 [0.52; 3.2] | |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 11 (3.3) | 52 (2) | 17 (1.8) | 35 (2.1) | 0.78 [0.33; 1.85] | |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | 5 (1.5) | 20 (0.8) | 6 (0.6) | 8 (0.5) | 1.7 [0.55; 5.21] | |
| North America | 2 (0.6) | 19 (0.7) | 8 (0.8) | 11 (0.7) | 1.34 [0.34; 5.31] | |
| National Income | | | | | | 0.145 |
| High-income | 202 (60.7) | 1479 (56.9) | 485 (50.2) | 994 (60.8) | 1 | |
| Upper-middle-income | 80 (24) | 870 (33.5) | 393 (40.7) | 477 (29.2) | 1.42 [0.99; 2.04] | |
| Low & Lower-middle-income ** | 51 (14.1) | 251 (9.2) | 88 (9.1) | 163 (10) | 1.11 [0.72; 1.72] | |
| Academic status of the hospital | | | | | | |
| Teaching Hospital | 270 (82.6) | 2207 (85.4) | 823 (85.4) | 1384 (85.4) | 1 | 0.122 |
| Non-teaching Hospital | 57 (17.4) | 378 (14.6) | 141 (14.6) | 237 (14.6) | 1.28 [0.94; 1.76] | |
| Type of ICU | | | | | | |
| Mixed (medical-surgical) | 260 (79.5) | 2040 (78.9) | 732 (75.9) | 1308 (80.7) | 1 | 0.048 |
| Medical | 41 (12.5) | 383 (14.8) | 180 (18.7) | 203 (12.5) | 1.49[1.07; 2.09] | |
| Surgical | 26 (8) | 162 (6.3) | 52 (5.4) | 110 (6.8) | 0.9[0.57; 1.43] | |
| Number of ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU >=15 | 176 (53.82) | 1464 (56.63) | 499 (51.8) | 965 (59.5) | 0.81[0.65; 1.03] | 0.081 |
| Nurse to ventilator-bed ratio | 2 [1.3; 2.9] | 2.2 [1.6; 2.8] | 2.2 [1.6; 2.8] | 2.2 [1.5; 2.9] | 0.99[0.97; 1] | 0.106 |
| Senior doctor to ventilator-bed ratio | 6.7 [4.3; 10] | 6 [4; 9.5] | 6 [4; 9] | 6.3 [4.3; 9.5] | 0.99[0.97; 1.01] | 0.213 |
| Senior medical cover is available 24/7 | 304 (93.3) | 2355 (91.5) | 869 (90.3) | 1486 (92.1) | 0.81[0.53; 1.23] | 0.319 |
| General surgery is available 24/7 | 321(98.2) | 2556 (98.9) | 951 (98.7) | 1605 (99) | 0.8[0.31; 2.05] | 0.637 |
| Infectious diseases specialist or clinical microbiologist are consulted | | | | | | |
| 24/7 | 170 (54.8) | 1479 (60) | 566 (60.9) | 913 (59.4) | 1 | 0.57 |
| During business hours | 114 (36.8) | 855 (34.7) | 313 (33.7) | 542 (35.3) | 1.06 [0.82; 1.38] | |
| Never or sporadically | 26 (8.4) | 131 (5.3) | 50 (5.4) | 81 (5.3) | 1.29 [0.8; 2.09] | |
| Clinical pharmacists are consulted | | | | | | |
| 24/7 | 82 (25.5) | 636 (25.1) | 188 (19.9) | 448 (28.2) | 1 | 0.007 |
| During business hours | 129 (40.1) | 811 (32) | 284 (30.1) | 527 (33.2) | 1.32 [0.99; 1.78] | |
| Never or sporadically | 111 (34.5) | 1084 (42.8) | 471 (49.9) | 613 (38.6) | 1.64[1.21; 2.24] | |
| TDM of aminoglycosides is available | | | | | | |
| Everyday | 171 (52.5) | 1249 (48.5) | 383 (39.8) | 866 (53.7) | 1 | 0.002 |
| At least once a week | 30 (9.2) | 213 (8.3) | 81 (8.4) | 132 (8.2) | 1.32[0.88; 1.98] | |
| Not available | 125 (38.3) | 1113 (43.2) | 498 (51.8) | 615 (38.1) | 1.6[1.23; 2.09] | |
| TDM of vancomycin is available | | | | | | |
| Everyday | 200 (61.3) | 1419 (55.1) | 462 (48) | 957 (59.3) | 1 | 0.012 |
| At least once a week | 43 (13.2) | 319 (12.4) | 120 (12.5) | 199 (12.3) | 1.07[0.74; 1.53] | |
| Not available | 83 (25.5) | 837 (32.5) | 380 (39.5) | 457 (28.3) | 1.55[1.15; 2.07] | |
| TDM of β-lactams is available | | | | | | |
| Everyday | 35 (10.7) | 256 (9.9) | 87 (9) | 169 (10.5) | 1 | 0.255 |
| At least once a week | 51 (15.6) | 408 (15.8) | 117 (12.2) | 291 (18) | 0.81[0.52; 1.27] | |
| Not available | 240 (73.6) | 1911 (74.2) | 758 (78.8) | 1153 (71.5) | 1.1[0.75; 1.62] | |

Legend: Full report of center characteristics is available in ESM eTable 3. results reported as n (%) for categorical variables and median [IQR] for continuous variables; * All Center data was missing for 6 ICUs and 7 to 12 did not provide staffing or stewardship data. ** There were 4 ICUs and 11 patients in the Low-income category. 24/7: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ICU: intensive care unit. TDM: therapeutic drug monitoring. Ventilator equivalent beds refers to the maximum number of ventilated patients the ICU can accommodate at one time.

Table 2 Baseline (admission to the ICU) patient characteristics and day-28 mortality

| Variable | All patients (n= 2600) | Dead on D28 (n= 966) | Alive on D28 (n= 1634) | OR [95% CI] | P value |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Age (years) | | | | | <.001 |
| <52 | 649 (25.0) | 175 (18.1) | 474 (29) | Ref. | |
| [52-64] | 691 (26.6) | 256 (26.5) | 435 (26.6) | 1.59 [1.25; 2.04] | |
| [65-73] | 618 (23.8) | 223 (23.1) | 395 (24.2) | 1.53 [1.19; 1.97] | |
| >=74 | 642 (24.7) | 312 (32.3) | 330 (20.2) | 2.46 [1.91; 3.16] | |
| SAPS II score on ICU admission (age excluded) * | | | | | <.001 |
| <26 | 585 (22.5) | 186 (19.3) | 399 (24.4) | Ref. | |
| [26-35] | 708 (27.2) | 227 (23.5) | 481 (29.4) | 1.09 [0.84; 1.39] | |
| [36-47] | 618 (23.8) | 223 (23.1) | 395 (24.2) | 1.37 [1.06; 1.77] | |
| ≥48 | 689 (26.5) | 330 (34.2) | 359 (22) | 2.28 [1.78; 2.93] | |
| Male gender | 1657 (63.7) | 596 (61.7) | 1061 (64.9) | 0.89 [0.75; 1.06] | 0.192 |
| Body Mass Index (kg per m²) | | | | | |
| <18.5 | 98 (3.8) | 32 (3.3) | 66 (4) | 1 | 0.771 |
| [18.5; 30[| 1845 (71.1) | 687 (71.3) | 1158 (71) | 1.13 [0.71; 1.78] | |
| ≥30 | 652 (25.1) | 245 (25.4) | 407 (25) | 1.18 [0.73; 1.9] | |
| Charlson comorbidity index | | | | | |
| 0 | 792 (30.5) | 223 (23.1) | 569 (34.8) | 1 | <.001 |
| 1-2 | 935 (36) | 371 (38.4) | 564 (34.5) | 1.59 [1.28; 1.97] | |
| >2 | 873 (33.6) | 372 (38.5) | 501 (30.7) | 1.83 [1.47; 2.28] | |
| Solid Tumor, no metastasis | 242 (9.3) | 88 (9.1) | 154 (9.4) | 0.99 [0.74; 1.32] | 0.931 |
| Solid Tumor, with metastasis | 159 (6.1) | 76 (7.9) | 83 (5.1) | 1.54 [1.09; 2.17] | 0.013 |
| Haematological malignancy | 159 (6.1) | 71 (7.3) | 88 (5.4) | 1.55 [1.1; 2.2] | 0.013 |
| Type of ICU Admission | | | | | |
| Medical | 1922 (73.9) | 777 (80.4) | 1145 (70.1) | 1 | <.001 |
| Surgical elective | 186 (7.2) | 56 (5.8) | 130 (8) | 0.69 [0.49; 0.97] | |
| Surgical emergency | 492 (18.9) | 133 (13.8) | 359 (22) | 0.6 [0.47; 0.76] | |
| Primary ICU admission diagnosis* | | | | | |
| Sepsis or septic shock | 530 (20.4) | 189 (19.6) | 341 (20.9) | 1 | <.001 |
| Respiratory admission * | 550 (21.2) | 232 (24) | 318 (19.5) | 1.14 [0.88; 1.48] | |
| COVID-19 * | 336 (12.9) | 195 (20.2) | 141 (8.6) | 2.07 [1.5; 2.85] | |
| Post-operative admission | 258 (9.9) | 83 (8.6) | 175 (10.7) | 0.84 [0.6; 1.17] | |
| Other admission diagnoses | 926 (35.6) | 267 (27.6) | 659 (40.3) | 0.68 [0.53; 0.87] | |

Legend: Continuous variables are presented as median [IQR]. Categorical variables are presented as n (%). CI: confidence interval. Closed brackets [;] denote inclusive of the end of the range and open brackets]; [denote the exclusion of the end of the range. ICU: Intensive care unit, SAPS II: Simplified Acute Physiology Score II, * The SAPS II score was calculated excluding age-related points to avoid collinearity. *Respiratory admission refers to admission for respiratory failure other than COVID-19 that has been categorized separately. A full list of co-morbidities as defined in Charlson score and admission diagnosis can be found in the electronic supplement eTable 3.

Table 3 Patient characteristics at diagnosis of hospital-acquired bloodstream infection and day-28 mortality.

| Characteristics | All patients (N= 2600) | Dead on D28 (n= 966) | Alive on D28 (n= 1634) | OR [95% CI] | p-Value |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Time from ICU admission to HA-BSI | | | | | |
| Acquired prior to ICU admission | 558 (21.5) | 188 (19.5) | 370 (22.6) | 1.03 [0.82; 1.29] | 0.017 |
| Early ICU-acquired (≤7 days) | 810 (31.2) | 327 (33.9) | 483 (29.6) | 1.32 [1.08; 1.6] | |
| Late ICU-acquired (>7 days) | 1232 (47.4) | 451 (46.7) | 781 (47.8) | 1 | |
| Maximum Temperature | | | | | |
| <38.2°C | 1412 (54.5) | 588 (61.2) | 824 (50.6) | 1 | <.001 |
| ≥38.2°C | 1179 (45.5) | 373 (38.8) | 806 (49.4) | 0.72 [0.6; 0.86] | |
| Sepsis or septic shock | | | | | |
| No sepsis or Sepsis without shock | 1776 (68.5) | 538 (55.9) | 1238 (76) | 1 | <.001 |
| Septic shock - No steroids | 446 (17.2) | 213 (22.1) | 233 (14.3) | 2.38 [1.89; 2.99] | |
| Septic shock – Steroids administered | 370 (14.3) | 211 (21.9) | 159 (9.8) | 3.85 [2.98; 4.97] | |
| SOFA score | 8 [5; 11] | 10 [7; 13] | 7 [5; 10] | 1.21 [1.19; 1.24] | <.001 |
| Ventilation status | | | | | |
| Low flow oxygen or no oxygen | 493 (19) | 104 (10.8) | 389 (23.8) | 1 | <.001 |
| High Flow Oxygen Nasal Canula | 163 (6.3) | 50 (5.2) | 113 (6.9) | 1.69 [1.11; 2.57] | |
| Non-Invasive Mechanical Ventilation or CPAP | 153 (5.9) | 50 (5.2) | 103 (6.3) | 1.84 [1.2; 2.81] | |
| Invasive Mechanical Ventilation | 1791 (68.9) | 762 (78.9) | 1029 (63) | 2.81 [2.18; 3.61] | |
| ECMO (VA or VV) | 41 (1.6) | 21 (2.2) | 20 (1.2) | 1.92 [0.99; 3.72] | 0.053 |
| Vasopressors (adrenaline or noradrenaline) | 1376 (52.9) | 614 (63.6) | 762 (46.6) | 2.44 [2.04; 2.93] | <.001 |
| Vasopressin | 113 (4.3) | 61 (6.3) | 52 (3.2) | 2.89 [1.89; 4.4] | <.001 |
| Gram-negative bacteria* | 1623 (62.4) | 608 (62.9) | 1015 (62.1) | 0.98 [0.82; 1.17] | 0.823 |
| DTR Gram-negative | 350 (13.5) | 185 (19.2) | 165 (10.1) | 1.71 [1.33; 2.21] | <.001 |
| Gram-positive bacteria* | 859 (33) | 312 (32.3) | 547 (33.5) | 0.98 [0.82; 1.17] | 0.821 |
| Resistant Gram-positive (MRSA, MRSE or VRE) | 323 (12.4) | 112 (11.6) | 211 (12.9) | 0.86 [0.66; 1.11] | 0.248 |
| Fungus* | 227 (8.7) | 102 (10.6) | 125 (7.6) | 1.39 [1.04; 1.86] | 0.026 |
| Strict anaerobe bacteria* | 57 (2.2) | 15 (1.6) | 42 (2.6) | 0.76 [0.41; 1.41] | 0.382 |
| Polymicrobial blood culture | 290 (11.2) | 106 (11) | 184 (11.3) | 1 [0.77; 1.32] | 0.973 |
| Source of HA-BSI | | | | | |
| Intravascular catheter | 686 (26.4) | 239 (24.7) | 447 (27.4) | 1 | 0.027 |
| Intra-abdominal | 392 (15.1) | 145 (15) | 247 (15.1) | 1.33 [1; 1.76] | |
| Other | 217 (8.3) | 69 (7.1) | 148 (9.1) | 1.01 [0.71; 1.44] | |
| Primary | 425 (16.3) | 169 (17.5) | 256 (15.7) | 1.26 [0.96; 1.65] | |
| Respiratory | 694 (26.7) | 288 (29.8) | 406 (24.8) | 1.39 [1.09; 1.77] | |
| Urinary | 186 (7.2) | 56 (5.8) | 130 (8) | 0.9 [0.62; 1.3] | |
| More than 1 possible source of infection | 853 (32.8) | 322 (33.3) | 531 (32.5) | 1.14 [0.94; 1.37] | 0.191 |
| Time to adequate antimicrobial therapy | | | | | |
| ≤24 hours, n (%) | 1339 (51.5) | 463 (47.9) | 876 (53.6) | 1 | <.001 |
|]24;48] hours, n (%) | 336 (12.9) | 117 (12.1) | 219 (13.4) | 1.03 [0.79; 1.34] | |
|]48;120] hours, n (%) | 396 (15.2) | 134 (13.9) | 262 (16) | 0.96 [0.74; 1.23] | |
| > 120 hours, n (%) | 125 (4.8) | 38 (3.9) | 87 (5.3) | 0.72 [0.47; 1.09] | |
| Never, n (%) | 403 (15.5) | 214 (22.2) | 189 (11.6) | 1.98 [1.55; 2.53] | |
| Source control | | | | | |
| Not required | 1235 (47.5) | 488 (50.5) | 747 (45.7) | 1 | <.001 |
| Required, achieved | 1117 (43) | 321 (33.2) | 796 (48.7) | 0.63 [0.52; 0.76] | |
| Required, but NOT achieved | 248 (9.5) | 157 (16.3) | 91 (5.6) | 2.6 [1.92; 3.51] | |

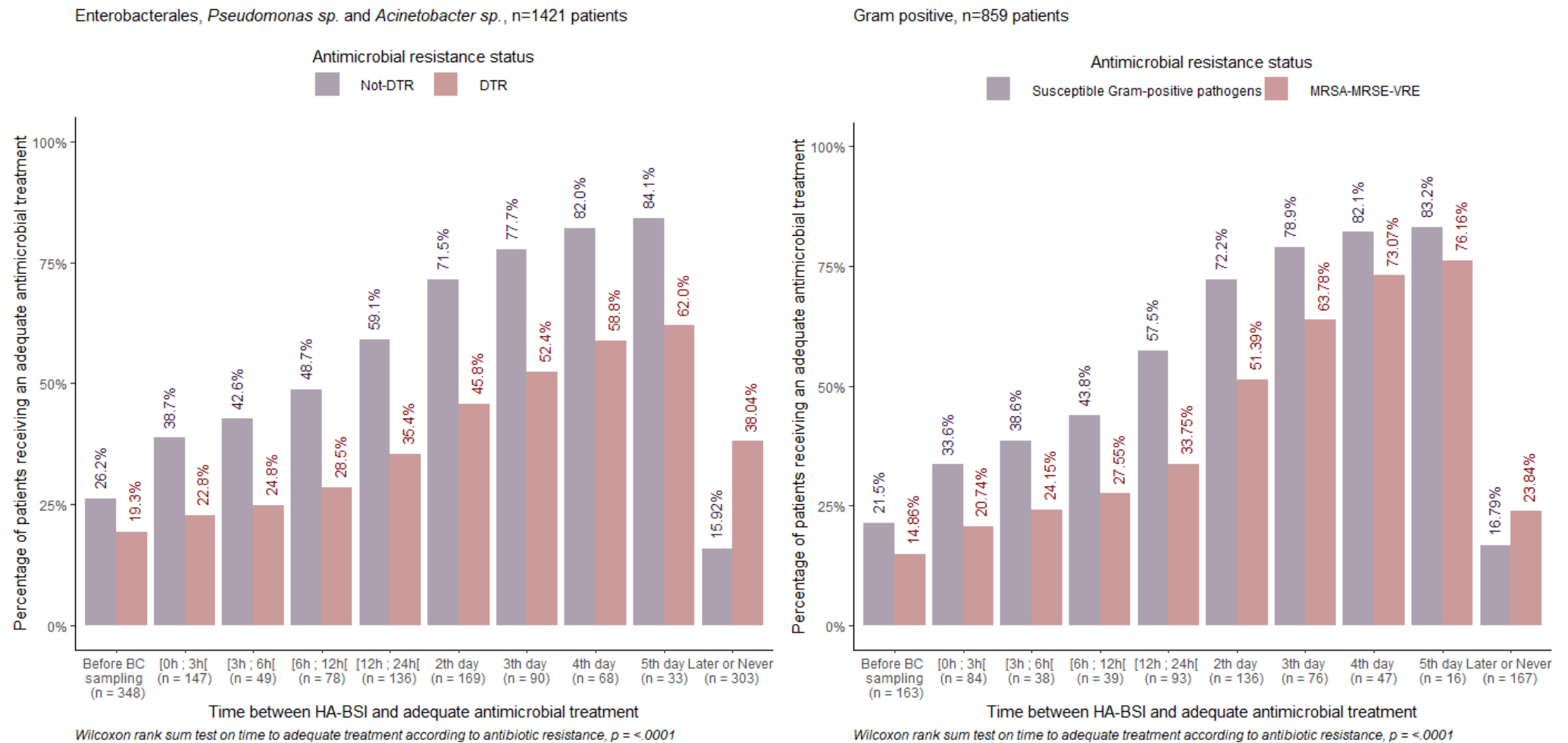
Legend: Continuous variables are presented as median [IQR] and categorical variables as n(%). Closed brackets [:] denote inclusive of the end of the range and open brackets]; [denote the exclusion of the end of the range. HA-BSI: hospital-acquired blood stream infection, CPAP: continuous positive airway pressure ECMO: extra-corporeal membrane oxygenation, VA: venoarterial, VV: venovenous. DTR: Difficult to treat resistance MRSA: Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, MRSE: Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus epidermidis* and includes all coagulase negative staphylococcus reported as non-susceptible to methicillin, VRE: Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus. * Sum of percentages exceed 100 because a patient may have had several pathogens in the blood culture, referring to the 11.2% polymicrobial blood cultures

Table 4 Characteristics of the pathogens in the initial blood culture in Eurobact 2 and comparison with Eurobact 1 and EPIC III studies.

| Pathogens | Eurobact-2 n= 2927 (%) | Eurobact-1 (n=1317)* | EPIC III BSI (n=1239)** |
|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Gram-negative bacteria | 1726 (59.0) | 759 (57.6) | 515 (44.6) |
| <i>Klebsiella spp.</i> | 482 (27.9) | 156 (20.1) | 144 (28.0) |
| Carbapenem Resistant | 182 (37.8) | 59 (37.8) | 86 (59.7) |
| DTR* | 133 (27.6) | . | . |
| PDR* | 11 (2.3) | 3 (1.9) | . |
| <i>Escherichia coli</i> | 272 (15.8) | 98(12.9) | 116 (22.5) |
| Carbapenem Resistant | 20 (7.4) | 1(1) | 32 (27.6) |
| DTR* | 9 (3.3) | . | . |
| PDR* | 0 (0.0) | 0(0) | . |
| <i>Enterobacter spp.</i> | 141 (8.2) | 88 (11.6) | . |
| Carbapenem Resistant | 31 (22.0) | 5 (5.7) | . |
| DTR* | 8 (5.7) | . | . |
| PDR* | 0 (0.0) | 0(0) | . |
| <i>Pseudomonas spp.</i> | 247 (14.3) | 150 (19.7) | 67 (13.0) |
| Carbapenem Resistant | 82 (33.2) | 56 (37.3) | 10 (14.9) |
| DTR* | 25 (10.1) | . | . |
| PDR* | 4 (1.6) | 0(0) | . |
| <i>Acinetobacter spp.</i> | 350 (20.3) | 160 (21.1) | 68 (13.2) |
| Carbapenem Resistant | 296 (84.6) | 110 (68.7) | 53 (77.9) |
| DTR* | 176 (50.3) | . | . |
| PDR* | 8 (2.3) | 1 (0.6) | . |
| Other Gram-negative bacteria | 234 (13.6) | 107 (14.1) | 177 (34.4) |
| Carbapenem Resistant | 24 (12.5) | . | . |
| Gram-positive bacteria | 910 (31.1) | 440 (33.4) | 494 (42.7) |
| <i>Enterococcus spp.</i> | 314 (34.5) | 144 (32.7) | 58 (11.7) |
| <i>Enterococcus faecium</i> | 156 (49.7) | 70 (48.6) | . |
| VRE | 37 (23.7) | 16 (22.9) | . |
| Coagulase-negative <i>Staphylococcus</i> | 273 (30.0) | 141(32.0) | 182 (36.8) |
| MRSE | 200 (73.3) | . | 73 (40.1) |
| <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> | 251 (27.6) | 119 (27.0) | 180 (36.4) |
| MRSA | 93 (37.1) | 57 (47.9) | 54 (30.0) |
| Other Gram-positive bacteria | 72 (7.9) | 36 (8.2) | 40 (8.1) |
| Strict anaerobe bacteria | 61 (2.1) | 20 (1.5) | 19 (1.6) |
| <i>Bacteroides</i> | 29 (47.5) | . | . |
| Other anaerobes | 32 (52.5) | . | . |
| Fungi | 230 (7.9) | 98 (7.4) | 126 (10.9) |
| <i>Candida albicans</i> | 91 (39.6) | 56 (57.1) | 71 (56.3) |
| <i>Candida non-albicans spp.</i> | 133 (57.8) | 39 (39.8) | 53 (42.1) |
| Other fungi | 6 (2.6) | | 4 (3.2) |

Legend: Percentages shown for the relevant pathogen or category. A "." denotes unavailable or not comparable data. MRSA and MRSE denotes the % of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Coagulase negative Staphylococcus* resistant to methicillin, VRE the % of enterococcus faecium resistant to vancomycin. Carbapenem resistant is defined as at least one carbapenem has been tested and the isolate is resistant to all the carbapenems that have been tested. DTR: Difficult to treat resistance. PDR: Pan-drug resistant (resistant to all tested antibiotics). DTR status is determined on Enterobacteriaceae, *Pseudomonas* and *Acinetobacter species* and requires require antibiogram results for ≥ 1 carbapenem, ≥ 1 extended-spectrum cephalosporin, and ≥ 1 fluoroquinolone. Candida unknown species have been classified in non-albicans. All PDR pathogens are DTR, and all DTR are carbapenem-R, thus the count and proportion of DTR and carbapenem-R micro-organisms includes that of the more resistant categories. EUROBACT 1 reported susceptibilities on monomicrobial infections. EPIC III reported the pathogens from 1154 bacterial or fungal bloodstream infections, not restricted to hospital-acquired infections. Sum of percentages exceeds 100 because patients may have had more than 1 infection.

Figure 1 Relationship between resistance and timing of adequate antimicrobial therapy.



Legend: Cumulative percentage of patients receiving at least one adequate antimicrobial, on each time-period before and after the date of collection of the first positive blood culture, shown by antimicrobial resistance status. MRSA: Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, MRSE: Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus epidermidis* includes all Methicillin resistant Coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus*, VRE: vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus*. Closed brackets [;] denote inclusive of the end of the range and open brackets]; [denote the exclusion of the end of the range.

Epidemiology and outcomes of hospital-acquired bloodstream infections in intensive care units: the EUROBACT II International Cohort Study

Electronic Supplemental Material (ESM)

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Protocol and definitions

Timeline

The study start date was the 1st of August 2019. It was planned to continue for 1 year. Two pilot centers started recruitment on 1/06/2019. Delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic led to extending the recruitment period up to the 30st of January 2021 for the date of HA-BSI. Centers could choose the study start date for their intensive care unit (ICU) between the date of obtention of all required ethical and regulatory approvals and the 31st of October 2020. The minimal study recruitment period was 3 months or 10 consecutive cases (whichever came first) and could be extended on request from the local investigator for up to the whole duration of the study. The database was closed on the 12th of August 2021.

Data quality processes

A dual verification and query process was used, including electronic verification of all collected data through a set of coherence routines, and reviewing of each case report form (CRF) by a group of experts (AT, NB, FB) assessing data quality and completeness. Complex cases were reviewed at regular meetings to resolve any disagreement. We excluded patients that did not meet the inclusion criteria and those missing core outcome data (i.e., dates of hospital-acquired bloodstream infection (HA-BSI) and hospital/ICU admission, discharge and/or death as applicable, pathogen and treatment inclusive of antimicrobials and source control as applicable). We ensured correlation between the recorded source, source control and microbiology results. Inserted intravascular catheters are often removed as a possible source of infection in patients who develop sepsis, septic shock, or HA-BSI, we reviewed each case with the investigators in light of clinical progress and microbiology data. We ensured that intravascular catheters that had been removed but ended up not being the source of HA-BSI were not recorded as catheter-related bloodstream infection. Particular attention was given to only include true infections with possible skin contaminants. Any question or incoherence was fed back to the investigator through eCRF-embedded queries and checked until satisfactory resolution. In the absence of a response, we attempted to contact the center, with assistance from the NC, for a minimum of three times. In extreme cases where no response was obtained, or the investigator became unavailable to respond, the patients and/or the center were excluded from the study.

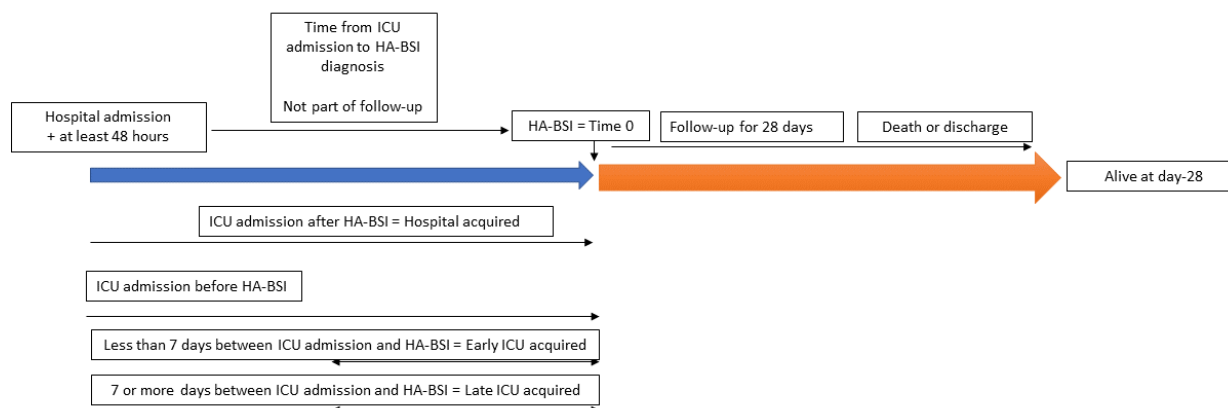
Definitions

- Intensive care unit: ICUs eligible to participate were defined as managing patients with organ failures within a health-care facility and able to provide invasive mechanical ventilation for a duration of at least 24 hours.
- Ventilator equivalent beds refers to the maximum number of ventilated patients the ICU can accommodate at one time.
- Admission source: refers to where was the patient prior to admission to the ICU.
- Primary diagnosis: The main reason for admission to the ICU. Only one primary diagnosis should be entered (see codes). If surgical admission the site of surgery should be entered as primary diagnosis.
- Type of admission: Surgical - defined as having surgery within 7 days of ICU admission. Elective surgery was defined as surgery scheduled > 24 hours in advance and emergency surgery as that scheduled within 24 hours of operation. All other admissions were considered medical.

- HA-BSIs were defined as isolation of a pathogenic organism from at least one blood culture 48 hours or more after hospital admission; the same 48-hour criterion was used to define ICU-acquired cases among HA-BSIs. For common skin contaminants (coagulase-negative staphylococci, *Corynebacterium* species, *Bacillus* species, *Propionibacterium* species, *Aerococcus* species, *Micrococcus* species), two blood cultures with the same antimicrobial susceptibility profile were mandatory or strong clinical grounds that it is not a contaminant. One example was infected material proven as a source for the HA-BSI. Where strong evidence supported HA-BSI but only one culture was positive (*e.g.*, positive catheter tip following line removal for suspected infection with prescription of additional treatment), all clinical and microbiological data were reviewed to decide whether the case should be included. Patients with BSIs acquired outside the ICU were eligible for inclusion if less than 2 days elapsed between collection of the first positive blood sample and ICU admission and/or if ICU admission was directly related to the consequences of HA-BSI. The inclusion date was the time of collection of the first positive blood culture.
- Comorbidities: Chronic diseases present prior to ICU admission. More than one can be chosen according to the following definitions:
 - Metastatic cancer: Metastases proven by surgery, computed tomography or magnetic resonance scan, or any other method.
 - Hematologic cancer: Lymphoma, Leukaemia.
 - AIDS: HIV positive patients with clinical complications such as *Pneumocystis carinii* pneumonia, Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, tuberculosis, or toxoplasma infection.
 - Chronic renal failure: Defined as either chronic dialysis dependent renal failure or history of chronic renal insufficiency with a serum creatinine > 3.6 g/dL (300 µmol/L).
 - Immunosuppression: Administration within the 6 months prior to ICU admission of corticosteroid treatment (at least 0.3 mg/kg/day prednisolone for at least one month) or other immunosuppressant drugs, severe malnutrition, congenital immune-humoral or cellular immune deficiency state.
 - Chemotherapy/radiotherapy: If within 6 months prior to ICU admission.
 - COPD / Chronic Pulmonary Disease Severe: Chronic restrictive, obstructive or vascular disease resulting in severe exercise limitation (*e.g.*, unable to climb stairs or perform household duties) or documented chronic hypoxia, hypercapnia, secondary polycythaemia, severe pulmonary hypertension (>40 mmHg) or home oxygen or non-invasive ventilation (NIV).
 - Liver disease, severe: Biopsy-proven cirrhosis with portal hypertension; episodes of past upper gastro-intestinal bleeding attributed to portal hypertension; or prior episodes of hepatic failure, encephalopathy, or coma.
- For scoring purposes, we recorded minimal and maximal or worse biological and physiological values of the first 24 hours following ICU admission.
- For the Glasgow coma scale (GCS) we defined the following: For non-sedated patients, enter the lowest GCS during the 24 hours. For patients sedated, enter the GCS at the time of/just prior to sedation. If not available, please enter an estimated GCS score as it would be if the patient was not receiving sedation.

- Delirium: Delirium is defined as an acute or fluctuating mental state (which represents a change from the patient's normal baseline) and is characterized by inattention with altered level of consciousness, agitation or disorganized thought processes. It can be diagnosed by standardized assessment tools such as (but not limited to) the Confusion Assessment Method for ICU (CAM-ICU)
Hyperactive delirium is characterized by agitation, restlessness, and attempts to remove tubes and lines.
Hypoactive delirium is characterized by withdrawal, flat affect, apathy, lethargy, and decreased responsiveness.
Mixed delirium is when patients fluctuate between the two.
- Decision to withhold or withdraw life-sustaining treatment was defined as the ethical decision to change goal of treatment from life-prolonging to palliative. It should only be entered if organ supportive therapy was stopped or not started when it would otherwise have been indicated
- Blood cultures, antimicrobial susceptibility testing, and interpretation were processed locally and following usual practice for each participating centre as detailed in eTable 3.
- Selective reporting of the antibiogram is a laboratory based antimicrobial stewardship process where the laboratory only reports a selection of the antimicrobials that were tested as susceptible for the pathogen. Selective reporting can be used to encourage the use of drugs that are appropriate for the site of infection, discourage the use of drugs for which susceptibility results may be misleading or drugs that may have negative consequences for a patient group or to avoid the overuse of broad-spectrum antibiotics. (see Pulcini et al. 2016 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijantimicag.2016.11.014>).
- Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and methicillin-resistant (coagulase-negative) *Staphylococcus epidermidis* (MRSE) were defined as resistance to methicillin/oxacillin.
- Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE) were reported as the percentage of *Enterococcus faecium* resistant to vancomycin.
- Carbapenem resistance for Enterobacterales was defined as resistance to at least one carbapenem as recommended by the United States of America Center For Disease Control And Prevention [1].
- Adequate antimicrobial therapy was defined as receiving at least 1 antimicrobial with in-vitro activity for the pathogen at the considered timepoint, with adequacy of antimicrobial selection, dosing and administration manually reviewed for all infections and sources of HA-BSI. Time to antimicrobial therapy for antimicrobials that were ongoing at time of HA-BSI was labelled as "Before BC sampling" and patients were categorized as having received adequate antimicrobial therapy ≤ 24 hours after HA-BSI. For the patients without susceptibility data or with incomplete antibiograms, antimicrobial therapy was considered adequate if the intrinsic organism characteristics and usual susceptibilities indicated a high likelihood of drug susceptibility. Antimicrobials administered at ineffective or very low dose and/or route of administration, relative to the source of infection, were considered as not adequate.
- Times are calculated from the time of blood culture sampling, which represents the time 0 of the study as shown in the diagram below.

- Time to adequate antimicrobial therapy was defined as the time between sampling of the study blood culture and receipt of one adequate antimicrobial for each pathogen in the blood culture.



Sources of Hospital acquired blood stream-infection and source control

The presumed source of the BSI was determined by the treating clinician from the following pre-defined list of categories and subcategories, and if multiple possible sources we requested ordering/numbering in order of likelihood.

- Primary: defined as no clear focus or portal of entry identified
- Catheter-related (Intra-vascular catheter only)
- Respiratory tract
 - Pneumonia
 - Pleural, empyema
 - Tracheobronchitis
- Intra-abdominal
 - Peritonitis
 - Biliary source
 - Other intra-abdominal
- Urinary tract
- Bone or soft tissues
 - Necrotizing fasciitis
 - Other soft tissue
 - Joint or bone
 - Spine
- Endocarditis
- Mediastinitis
- Central Nervous System

Source control was recorded according to the clinician's report as

- Not required
- Required, completed
- Source control required but not achieved

When it was required, we recorded the time, date and effectiveness of the intervention according to pre-defined categories, and if a specimen was sent for microbiology and if it was positive. When patients had multiple interventions we recorded the number of interventions, date of the last intervention and if it was deemed effective after the last intervention.

Source control interventions were recorded according to the following categories

Intravascular catheter Related

- Catheter removal
- Surgical vascular procedure (ligature)

Respiratory tract (pulmonary, pleural, empyema)

- Surgical thoracic
- Percutaneous thoracic (including chest drain)
- Percutaneous mediastinal

Vascular

- Surgical vascular
- Percutaneous vascular
- Other vascular

Cardiac and mediastinal

- Surgical cardiac
- Surgical mediastinal
- Percutaneous mediastinal
- other cardiac or mediastinal

Intra-abdominal

- Surgical abdominal
- Percutaneous abdominal
- Surgical other (mediastinal, pleural, ...)
- Percutaneous other (mediastinal, pleural, ...)

Urinary tract

- Surgical urinary (JJ stent)
- Surgical urinary (nephrectomy or other)
- Percutaneous urinary (nephrostomy)
- Other urinary

Bone or soft tissues

- Surgical skin
- Surgical bone
- Other bone or soft tissue

Other

- Percutaneous other
- Surgical other
- Other

eTable 1 Imputation of missing data.

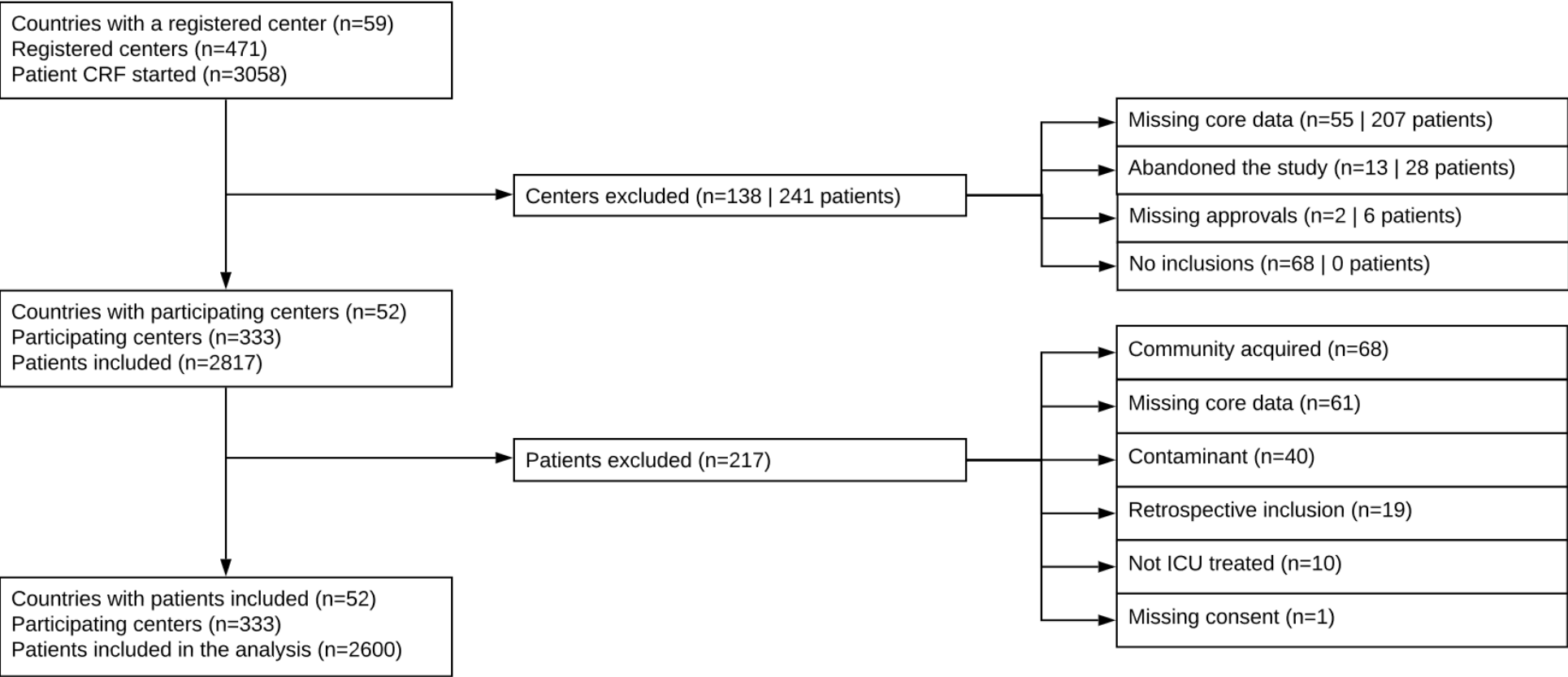
| Variable | Number of missing values | | Imputed value |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|--|
| | Center level | Patient level | |
| Type of ICU | 6 | 15 | Mixed (medical-surgical) |
| Clinical pharmacists are consulted | 11 | 69 | Available only during business hours |
| Aminoglycosides | 7 | 25 | TDM is available everyday |
| Vancomycin | 7 | 25 | TDM is available everyday |
| Number of ventilator-equivalent beds in the ICU ≥ 15 | 6 | 15 | <15 |
| Septic shock in class | n/a | 8 | No sepsis or sepsis without septic shock |
| Time before adequate treatment | n/a | 2 | 24-48 hours |

We used simple imputation of missing data to the median for continuous variables and to the mode for categorical variables.

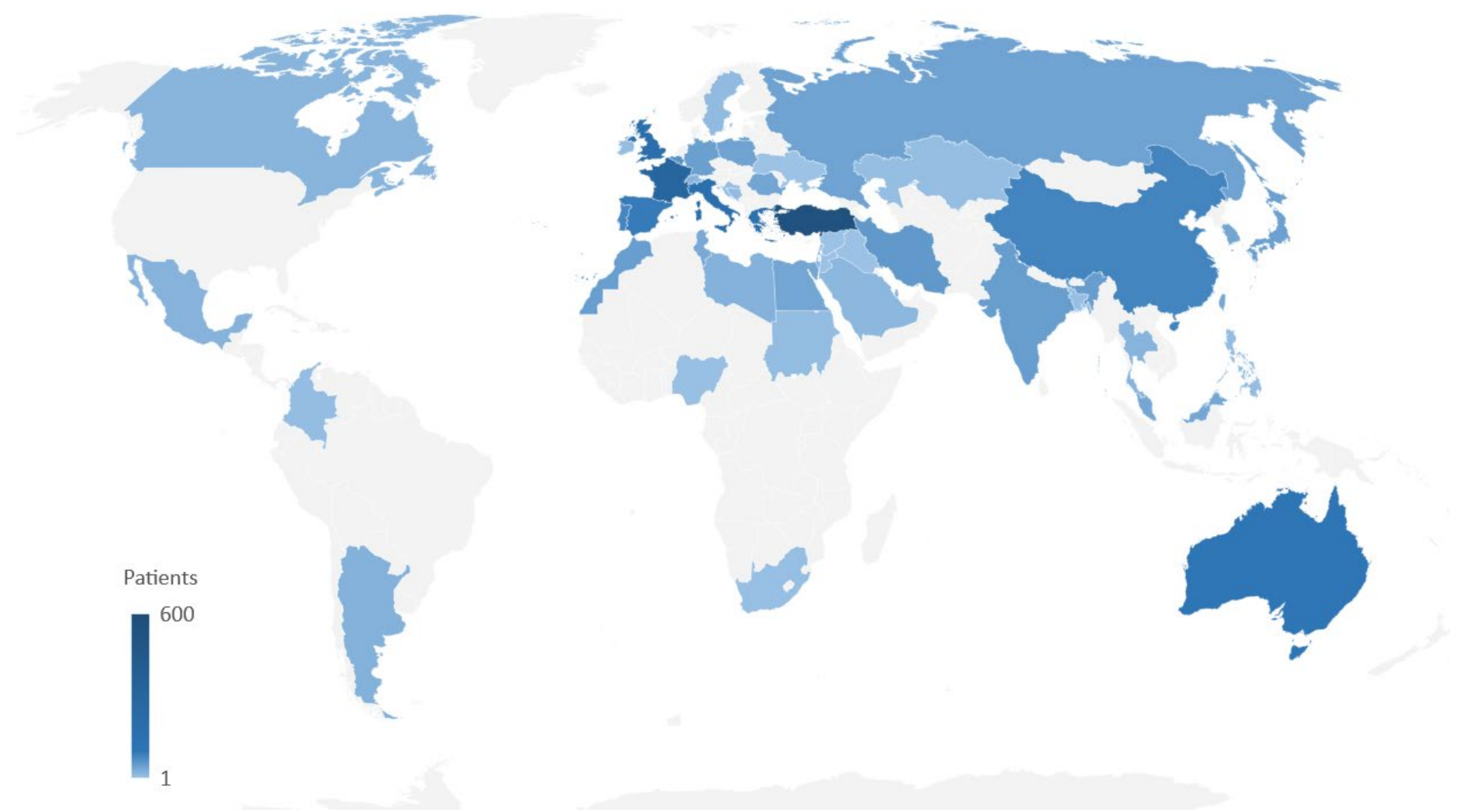
Missing times of blood culture sampling (n=26) and antibiotic start time (n=160) were imputed at 12:00 p.m.

TDM: therapeutic drug monitoring.

eFigure 1 Flowchart of the Eurobact II study



eFigure 2 Geographic distribution of participating ICUs and included patients



Legend: World-map participating countries and territories. Colour gradient denotes the number of included patients in each country.

eTable 2 Geographic distribution of participating ICUs

| | ICUs | Patients | | ICUs | Patients |
|--|-----------|------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| East Asia and Pacific | 69 | 412 | Europe and Central Asia | 184 | 1775 |
| Australia | 14 | 99 | Belgium | 12 | 64 |
| Brunei | 4 | 29 | Bosnia and Herzegovina | 1 | 10 |
| China | 15 | 80 | Croatia | 2 | 7 |
| Hong Kong | 1 | 5 | France | 35 | 288 |
| Japan | 11 | 44 | Germany | 6 | 46 |
| Malaysia | 6 | 36 | Greece | 19 | 144 |
| Philippines | 1 | 8 | Italy | 10 | 160 |
| Republic of Korea | 5 | 38 | Kazakhstan | 2 | 7 |
| Singapore | 6 | 18 | Poland | 6 | 41 |
| Taiwan | 4 | 35 | Portugal | 13 | 78 |
| Thailand | 2 | 20 | Republic of Ireland | 1 | 8 |
| Middle East and North Africa | 48 | 268 | Romania | 5 | 38 |
| Dubai | 1 | 10 | Russian Federation | 5 | 41 |
| Egypt | 7 | 38 | Spain | 13 | 92 |
| Iran | 13 | 54 | Sweden | 3 | 11 |
| Iraq | 1 | 2 | Switzerland | 2 | 20 |
| Israel | 2 | 19 | Turkey | 24 | 547 |
| Lebanon | 1 | 7 | UK | 24 | 172 |
| Libya | 5 | 22 | Ukraine | 1 | 1 |
| Morocco | 7 | 47 | North America | 2 | 19 |
| Qatar | 3 | 17 | Canada | 2 | 19 |
| Saudi Arabia | 3 | 15 | South Asia | 14 | 54 |
| Syria | 2 | 2 | Bangladesh | 2 | 6 |
| Tunisia | 2 | 33 | India | 12 | 48 |
| Jordan | 1 | 2 | Sub-Saharan Africa | 5 | 20 |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | 11 | 52 | Nigeria | 2 | 5 |
| Argentina | 4 | 23 | South Africa | 1 | 6 |
| Colombia | 1 | 8 | Sudan | 2 | 9 |
| Mexico | 6 | 21 | | | |

Legend: Number of participating ICUs and included patients in the Eurobact-2 database.

eTable 3 Characteristics of participating ICUs and patient outcomes

| Characteristics * | All ICUs (n=333)* | All patients (N= 2600) | Dead on D28 (n= 966) | Alive on D28 (n= 1634) | OR [95% CI] | P value |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Funding of the hospital | | | | | | |
| Public | 274 (83.8) | 2198 (85) | 808 (83.8) | 1390 (85.7) | 1 | 0.844 |
| Private | 35 (10.7) | 263 (10.2) | 108 (11.2) | 155 (9.6) | 1.06[0.73; 1.55] | . |
| Mixed | 18 (5.5) | 124 (4.8) | 48 (5) | 76 (4.7) | 1.14[0.69; 1.88] | . |
| Structure of the ICU | | | | | | |
| Closed-ICU | 246 (75.2) | 2039 (78.9) | 739 (76.7) | 1300 (80.2) | 1 | 0.2 |
| Open-ICU | 81 (24.8) | 546 (21.1) | 225 (23.3) | 321 (19.8) | 1.19[0.91; 1.56] | . |
| Specific Recruitment ** | | | | | | |
| General ICU | 300 (91.7) | 2440 (94.4) | 924 (95.9) | 1516 (93.5) | 1.46[0.9; 2.36] | 0.124 |
| Paediatric \$ | 20 (6.1) | 124 (4.8) | 32 (3.3) | 92 (5.7) | 0.55[0.32; 0.93] | 0.025 |
| Cardiac-surgical | 86 (26.3) | 638 (24.7) | 221 (22.9) | 417 (25.7) | 0.92[0.71; 1.2] | 0.534 |
| Coronary-care | 89 (27.2) | 559 (21.6) | 194 (20.1) | 365 (22.5) | 0.99[0.76; 1.3] | 0.955 |
| Post-operative | 235 (71.9) | 1895 (73.3) | 681 (70.6) | 1214 (74.9) | 0.76[0.59; 0.97] | 0.031 |
| Neuro-surgical | 158 (48.3) | 1373 (53.1) | 503 (52.2) | 870 (53.7) | 0.77[0.61; 0.96] | 0.024 |
| Trauma | 197 (60.2) | 1574 (60.9) | 584 (60.6) | 990 (61.1) | 0.9[0.71; 1.14] | 0.389 |
| Burns | 65 (19.9) | 446 (17.3) | 161 (16.7) | 285 (17.6) | 1.07[0.8; 1.43] | 0.629 |
| Number of ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU | 14 [10; 21] | 15 [11; 22] | 14 [11; 22] | 15 [11; 23] | 1 [0.99; 1] | 0.415 |
| Number high-dependency unit (HDU) beds in the ICU | 0 [0; 6] | 0 [0; 6] | 0 [0; 5] | 0 [0; 6] | 0.99[0.98; 1.01] | 0.227 |
| Antibiotic choice is guided by ** | | | | | | |
| Local guidelines | 194 (59.3) | 1417 (54.8) | 472 (49) | 945 (58.3) | 0.87[0.69; 1.11] | 0.265 |
| National/international guidelines | 195 (59.6) | 1570 (60.7) | 551 (57.2) | 1019 (62.9) | 0.89[0.7; 1.12] | 0.311 |
| Surveillance cultures | 157 (48) | 1318 (51) | 487 (50.5) | 831 (51.3) | 0.93[0.75; 1.17] | 0.556 |
| Consultation with ID, clinical microbiologists or pharmacists | 135 (41.3) | 1230 (47.6) | 485 (50.3) | 745 (46) | 0.98[0.76; 1.25] | 0.844 |
| The treating physician | 222 (67.9) | 1648 (63.8) | 572 (59.3) | 1076 (66.4) | 0.94[0.73; 1.22] | 0.658 |
| SOD or SDD | | | | | | |
| In All ICU patients | 58 (17.8) | 296 (11.6) | 180 (19) | 342 (21.3) | 1 | 0.211 |
| In a selected group of patients | 38 (11.7) | 1735 (68) | 95 (10) | 201 (12.5) | 0.97[0.63; 1.51] | . |
| Never | | | 672 (71) | 1063 (66.2) | 1.23[0.92; 1.65] | |
| Inside the hospital or same campus | 296 (90.5) | 2378 (92) | 897 (93) | 1481 (91.4) | 1 | 0.229 |
| At another hospital with a partnership or agreement | 25 (7.6) | 178 (6.9) | 52 (5.4) | 126 (7.8) | 0.79[0.5; 1.25] | |
| Off-site at an independent microbiology laboratory | 6 (1.8) | 29 (1.1) | 15 (1.6) | 14 (0.9) | 1.93[0.74; 5.06] | |
| Selective reporting of antibiogram | | | | | | |
| Not selective | 155 (48) | 1304 (50.9) | 471 (49.1) | 788 (49.2) | 1 | 0.679 |
| Selective | 168 (52) | 1259 (49.1) | 489 (50.9) | 815 (50.8) | 0.95[0.75; 1.21] | |
| Recommendations used for the interpretation of antibiotic susceptibility testing | | | | | | |
| EUCAST | 194 (60.06) | 1827 (71.56) | 1121 (70.2) | 706 (73.8) | 1 | 0.802 |
| CLSI | 116 (35.91) | 671 (26.28) | 436 (27.3) | 235 (24.6) | 0.92 [0.69; 1.21] | |
| Other | 13 (4.02) | 55 (2.15) | 39 (2.4) | 16 (1.7) | 0.89 [0.43; 1.85] | |

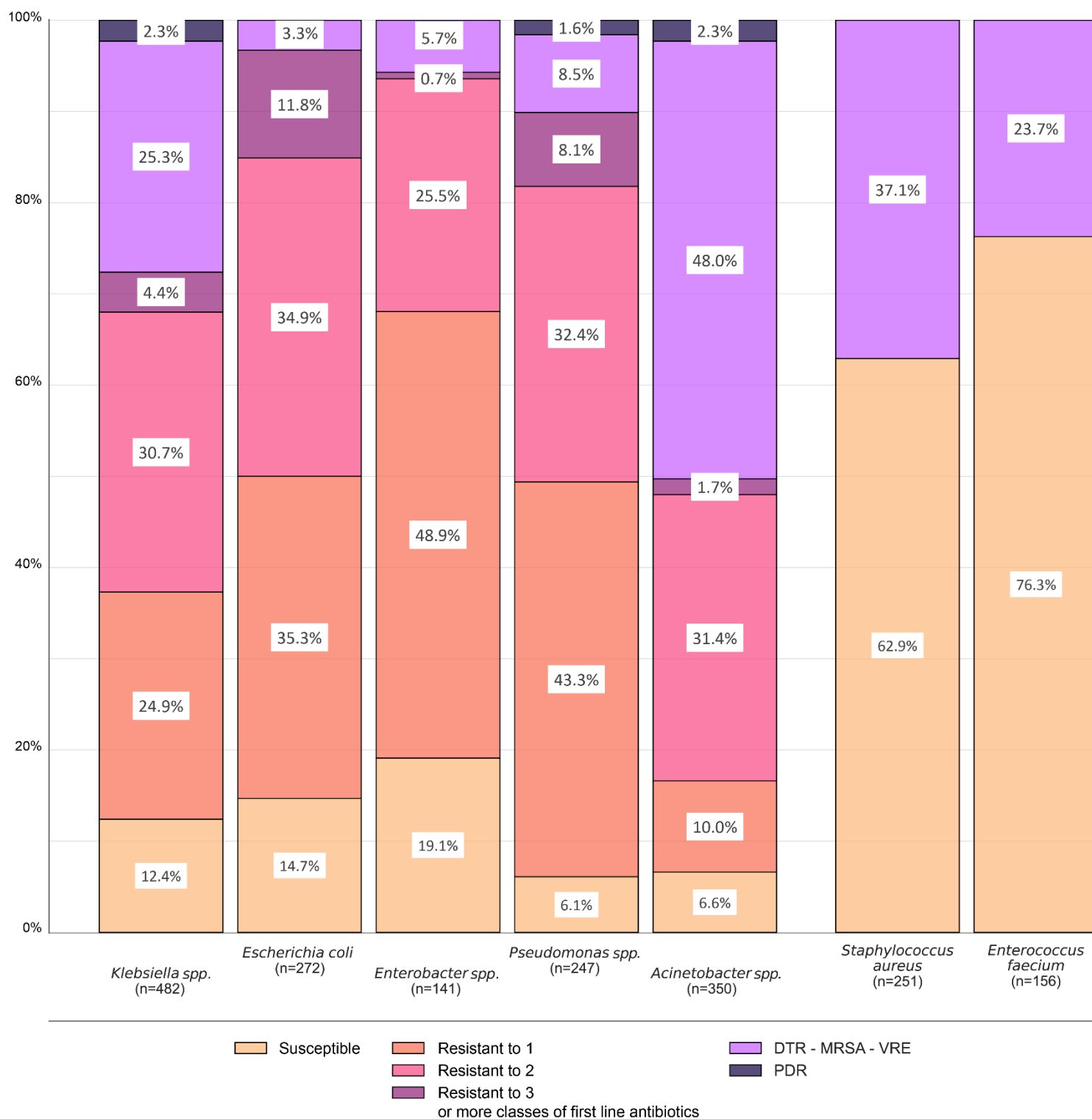
Legend: results reported as n (%) for categorical variables and median [IQR] for continuous variables; * All Center data was missing for 6 ICUs and 7 to 12 did not provide staffing or stewardship data. ** Percentage does not equate to 100% because multiple categories could be selected. \$: Refers to ICUs with paediatric admission capacity – Only adult patients could be included in the study. *** There were 4 ICUs and 11 patients in the Low-income category Selective reporting of antibiogram results refers to the reporting to the clinician of a selection only of the tested antibiotics. 24/7: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ICU: intensive care unit, SOD: selective oral decontamination, SDD: selective digestive decontamination. TDM: therapeutic drug monitoring. Ventilator equivalent beds refers to the maximum number of ventilated patients the ICU can accommodate at one time.

eTable 4 Additional baseline (admission to the ICU) patient characteristics and day-28 mortality

| Variable | All patients (N= 2600) | Dead on D28 (n= 966) | Alive on D28 (n= 1634) | OR [95% CI] | p-Value |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Chronic illnesses* | | | | | |
| Moderate COPD | 304 (11.7) | 111 (11.5) | 193 (11.8) | 0.98 [0.76; 1.28] | 0.905 |
| Severe COPD | 112 (4.3) | 43 (4.5) | 69 (4.2) | 1.09 [0.72; 1.64] | 0.685 |
| Heart Failure (NYHA 3) | 217 (8.3) | 112 (11.6) | 105 (6.4) | 1.83 [1.35; 2.47] | <.001 |
| Heart Failure (NYHA 4) | 60 (2.3) | 27 (2.8) | 33 (2) | 1.37 [0.79; 2.36] | 0.26 |
| Previous myocardial infarction | 239 (9.2) | 100 (10.4) | 139 (8.5) | 1.27 [0.95; 1.69] | 0.102 |
| Peripheral vascular disease | 176 (6.8) | 84 (8.7) | 92 (5.6) | 1.74 [1.25; 2.42] | 0.001 |
| Cerebrovascular disease | 277 (10.7) | 103 (10.7) | 174 (10.6) | 0.94 [0.71; 1.23] | 0.631 |
| Dementia | 109 (4.2) | 46 (4.8) | 63 (3.9) | 0.98 [0.64; 1.49] | 0.919 |
| Hemiplegia | 70 (2.7) | 20 (2.1) | 50 (3.1) | 0.64 [0.37; 1.11] | 0.112 |
| Diabetes without end organ damage | 476 (18.3) | 188 (19.5) | 288 (17.6) | 1.16 [0.94; 1.44] | 0.174 |
| Diabetes with end organ damage | 272 (10.5) | 118 (12.2) | 154 (9.4) | 1.15 [0.87; 1.51] | 0.316 |
| Renal disease, moderate | 256 (9.8) | 103 (10.7) | 153 (9.4) | 1.17 [0.88; 1.55] | 0.282 |
| Renal disease, severe (chronic dialysis) | 129 (5) | 51 (5.3) | 78 (4.8) | 1.09 [0.74; 1.59] | 0.671 |
| Connective tissue disease | 67 (2.6) | 31 (3.2) | 36 (2.2) | 1.54 [0.92; 2.59] | 0.1 |
| Ulcer disease (gastro-duodenal) | 87 (3.3) | 32 (3.3) | 55 (3.4) | 1.02 [0.63; 1.64] | 0.949 |
| Liver disease, mild to moderate | 93 (3.6) | 39 (4) | 54 (3.3) | 1.42 [0.91; 2.2] | 0.119 |
| Liver disease, severe | 67 (2.6) | 33 (3.4) | 34 (2.1) | 1.76 [1.06; 2.94] | 0.03 |
| Immunosuppression | | | | | |
| Steroids | 134 (5.2) | 60 (6.2) | 74 (4.5) | 1.49 [1.03; 2.16] | 0.034 |
| Chemotherapy/Radiotherapy within 6 months | 220 (8.5) | 93 (9.6) | 127 (7.8) | 1.37 [1.01; 1.85] | 0.044 |
| Targeted therapy for cancer | 57 (2.2) | 28 (2.9) | 29 (1.8) | 1.8 [1.03; 3.14] | 0.039 |
| Organ Transplant | 73 (2.8) | 26 (2.7) | 47 (2.9) | 0.93 [0.55; 1.56] | 0.78 |
| AIDS | 16 (0.6) | 7 (0.7) | 9 (0.6) | 1.73 [0.6; 5.01] | 0.312 |
| Other immunosuppression | 95 (3.7) | 39 (4) | 56 (3.4) | 1.21 [0.78; 1.88] | 0.401 |
| Source of ICU admission | | | | | |
| Hospital ward/floor, n (%) | 1101 (42.3) | 436 (45.1) | 665 (40.7) | 1 | 0.078 |
| Emergency department | 764 (29.4) | 275 (28.5) | 489 (29.9) | 0.76 [0.61; 0.93] | |
| Other hospital, n (%) | 352 (13.5) | 136 (14.1) | 216 (13.2) | 0.92 [0.71; 1.2] | |
| Operating Room/recovery | 286 (11) | 89 (9.2) | 197 (12.1) | 0.75 [0.56; 1.01] | |
| Other intermediate care unit, n (%) | 69 (2.7) | 21 (2.2) | 48 (2.9) | 0.66 [0.37; 1.17] | |
| Other, n (%) | 28 (1.1) | 9 (0.9) | 19 (1.2) | 0.71 [0.3; 1.67] | |
| Primary diagnosis at ICU admission | | | | | |
| Sepsis or septic shock | 530 (20.4) | 189 (19.6) | 341 (20.9) | 1 | <.001 |
| Cardiac arrest | 91 (3.5) | 39 (4) | 52 (3.2) | 1.2 [0.75; 1.94] | |
| Cardio-vascular causes | 137 (5.3) | 45 (4.7) | 92 (5.6) | 0.86 [0.56; 1.31] | |
| Gastro-intestinal causes | 85 (3.3) | 36 (3.7) | 49 (3) | 1.27 [0.78; 2.07] | |
| Hypovolemic or Haemorrhagic shock | 46 (1.8) | 16 (1.7) | 30 (1.8) | 1.02 [0.53; 1.97] | |
| Metabolic causes | 44 (1.7) | 11 (1.1) | 33 (2) | 0.57 [0.27; 1.18] | |
| Multiple trauma (no TBI) | 93 (3.6) | 19 (2) | 74 (4.5) | 0.42 [0.24; 0.74] | |
| Neurologic causes | 286 (11) | 74 (7.7) | 212 (13) | 0.55 [0.39; 0.78] | |
| COVID-19** | 336 (12.9) | 195 (20.2) | 141 (8.6) | 2.04 [1.48; 2.83] | |
| Post-Operative admission | 258 (9.9) | 83 (8.6) | 175 (10.7) | 0.83 [0.6; 1.16] | |
| Renal failure | 46 (1.8) | 14 (1.4) | 32 (2) | 0.75 [0.38; 1.49] | |
| Respiratory admission | 550 (21.2) | 232 (24) | 318 (19.5) | 1.13 [0.87; 1.47] | |
| Traumatic brain injury | 93 (3.6) | 11 (1.1) | 82 (5) | 0.2 [0.1; 0.4] | |
| Other | 5 (0.2) | 2 (0.2) | 3 (0.2) | 1.14 [0.18; 7.35] | |

Legend: Continuous variables are presented as median [IQR] and categorical variables as n(%). COPD: chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, ICU: intensive care unit, NYHA: New York heart association, AIDS: acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, TBI: Traumatic brain injury ** Respiratory admission refers to admission for respiratory failure other than COVID-19 that has been categorized separately.

eFigure 3 Proportion of drug resistant pathogens



Legend: Resistant to 1, 2 or 3 or more first line antibiotics was assessed among carbapenem, β -lactam, and fluoroquinolone categories and if tested piperacillin-tazobactam and ampicillin-sulbactam (*Acinetobacter spp.* ly) and aztreonam (not applicable for *Acinetobacter spp.*). DTR = difficult to treat resistance, PDR = Pandrug resistant (resistant to all tested antibiotics). DTR assessment requires antibiogram results for ≥ 1 carbapenem, ≥ 1 extended-spectrum cephalosporin, and ≥ 1 fluoroquinolone. PDR status only assessed for DTR pathogens. All PDR micro-organisms are DTR. MRSA= methicillin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*

Multivariable models

Statistical methods for the multivariable models

To identify factors associated with day-28 death, we built a three-tiered hierarchical logistic mixed model using the GLIMMIX procedure of the SAS software. The variables were organized into 3 tiers: country, ICU, and patient. The effects of country-based and center-based variables on the day28 survival were included as random intercepts. Multilevel modelling takes into account the hierarchical structure of the data, which may manifest as intraclass correlations [2]. To obtain a conservative estimate of the standard error, a separate random-error term was specified for each level of the analysis. Therefore, to avoid overestimating the significance of risk factors of day-28 mortality, we took intraclass correlations into account, and we specified a separate random-error term for each tier. Variables potentially associated with death were introduced into the multivariable model. The hierarchical model comprised three levels: country (level 3), center (level 2), and patient (level 1). All variables not obviously correlated (e.g., SOFA score and vasopressor use, age or temperature and SAPS II excluding age related points) with P-values less than 0.10 by univariate analysis were introduced into the multivariable model. We did not correct for multiplicity of statistical tests. Owing to the low number of missing values, simple imputation to the median for continuous variables and to the mode for categorical variables was used (ESM eTable 1). The COVID-19 status was not included in the multivariable analysis because of co-linearity of the admission diagnosis with sepsis or septic shock. To mitigate the bias (*i.e.*, high mortality and different epidemiology of HA-BSI) introduced by patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 [3], we performed a sensitivity analysis excluding the 276 COVID-19 patients. Following the peer review process, and to mitigate the risk of bias introduced by logistic regression with day-28 mortality as an outcome variable (*i.e.*, a substantial part of the cohort was still in the ICU), we computed a competing-risk, subdistribution hazard frailty model as suggested by Fine and Gray [4]. We introduced ICU discharge as a competing risk and a random centre effect to model cluster dependence on the cumulative incidence function of the event of interest in the presence of competing events using the `finalfit()` package of the R software

Variable selection for the multivariable models.

Variable selection for the multivariable models used full pre-specification and was performed as follows:

At database close a selection of clinically relevant variables was made to be presented in the manuscript and in the multivariable model. All candidate variables that were statistically significant with a threshold of 10% were included in the multivariable model. There was no stepwise process. We excluded variables that involved less than 5% of the cohort and those that were deemed collinear because of overlapping or used in the calculation of scores as shown in the table below.

| Level | Variable | Selected for multivariable analysis | reason |
|---------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Country | National income | Yes | |
| Center | Type of ICU | Yes | |
| Center | Paediatric | No | Collinear with type of ICU |
| Center | Post-operative | No | |
| Center | Neuro-surgical | No | |
| Center | Number of Ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU ≥ 15 | Yes | |
| Center | Clinical pharmacists are consulted | Yes | |
| Center | TDM of aminoglycosides is available | Yes | |
| Center | TDM of vancomycin is available | Yes | |
| Patient | Age | Yes | |
| Patient | SAPS-II on admission, excluding Age related points | Yes | SAPS-II score was computed excluding age related points to avoid collinearity with the variable Age. |
| Patient | Charlson co-morbidity index in class | Yes | |
| Patient | Solid-tumours – Proven metastasis | No | Already included as part of the computation of the SAPS-II score. |
| Patient | Haematological malignancy (Leukaemia or lymphoma) | No | |
| Patient | Immunosuppression: Steroids | Yes | |
| Patient | Chemotherapy / radiotherapy within 6 months | Yes | |
| Patient | Targeted Cancer Therapy (ongoing) | No | Size < 5% |
| Patient | Type of ICU admission | No | Already included as part of the computation of the SAPS-II score. |
| Patient | Primary ICU admission diagnosis | No | Collinear with sepsis / septic shock as 20.4% patients were admitted for sepsis or septic shock |
| Patient | Time from ICU admission to HA-BSI | Yes | |
| Patient | Temperature at HA-BSI (max) in class | No | Already included as part of the computation of the SAPS-II score. |
| Patient | SOFA score without the cardiovascular component at HA-BSI | Yes | The SOFA score cardiovascular component includes the use of dopamine, epi. or norepi. and as such is collinear with septic shock. We have included in the multivariable analysis a SOFA score excluding the cardiovascular component to avoid this issue. |
| Patient | SOFA score at HA-BSI | No | |
| Patient | Ventilation status | No | Collinear with the SOFA score |
| Patient | Vasopressors (adrenaline or noradrenaline) | No | Collinear with sepsis / septic shock |
| Patient | ECMO (VA OR VV) | No | Size < 5% |
| Patient | Vasopressin | Yes | This variable is not included in the SOFA score or in sepsis / septic shock. |
| Patient | Septic shock in class | Yes | |
| Patient | DTR Gram-negative pathogen | Yes | |
| Patient | Fungus | Yes | |
| Patient | Source of HA-BSI | Yes | |
| Patient | Source control | Yes | |
| Patient | Time to adequate antimicrobial therapy | Yes | |

eTable 5 Competing-risks frailty model and comparison with hierarchical logistic model

| | | Hierarchical logistic mixed model | Competing-risks frailty model (Fine & Gray) |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Variable | items | OR [CI 95%] | sHR [CI 95%] |
| National income level | High-Income | 1 | 1 |
| | Upper-middle-income | 0.83 [0.47;1.48] | 0.86 [0.65;1.14] |
| | Low & Lower-middle-income | 1.14 [0.71;1.83] | 1.10 [0.91;1.34] |
| Type of ICU | Mixed (medical-surgical) | 1 | 1 |
| | Medical | 1.31 [0.88;1.95] | 1.14 [0.96;1.36] |
| | Surgical | 1.02 [0.59;1.75] | 0.83 [0.61;1.11] |
| Clinical pharmacists are consulted | When required, 24/7 | 1 | 1 |
| | During business hours or part of the ICU staff | 1.19 [0.84;1.68] | 1.08 [0.89;1.32] |
| | Never or sporadically | 1.69 [1.17;2.43] | 1.31 [1.08;1.58] |
| TDM of aminoglycosides is available | Everyday | 1 | 1 |
| | At least once a week | 1.31 [0.69;2.5] | 1.23 [0.89;1.70] |
| | Not available | 1.41 [0.83;2.39] | 1.37 [1.07;1.75] |
| TDM of vancomycin is available | Everyday | 1 | 1 |
| | At least once a week | 0.66 [0.38;1.17] | 0.87 [0.65;1.16] |
| | Not available | 0.99 [0.58;1.71] | 0.81 [0.63;1.05] |
| Number of Ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU ≥ 15 | | 0.88 [0.68;1.16] | 0.85 [0.74;0.98] |
| Charlson comorbidity index | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| | 1 to 2 | 1.32 [1.03;1.69] | 1.26 [1.05;1.51] |
| | >2 | 1.26 [0.97;1.65] | 1.23 [1.01;1.49] |
| Immunosuppression: Steroids | | 1.44 [0.95;2.2] | 1.14 [0.88;1.48] |
| Chemotherapy / radiotherapy within 6 months | | 1.23 [0.86;1.76] | 1.16 [0.91;1.47] |
| SAPS II on ICU admission without age-related points | < 26 | 1 | 1 |
| | [26-35] | 0.79 [0.6;1.05] | 0.79 [0.65;0.96] |
| | [36-47] | 0.83 [0.62;1.11] | 0.70 [0.57;0.86] |
| | ≥ 48 | 0.95 [0.7;1.28] | 0.79 [0.64;0.97] |
| Age (years) | <52 | 1 | 1 |
| | [52-64] | 1.47 [1.11;1.95] | 1.22 [0.99;1.49] |
| | [65-73] | 1.47 [1.09;1.97] | 1.23 [1.00;1.52] |
| | ≥ 74 | 2.5 [1.86;3.36] | 1.51 [1.22;1.85] |
| Time from ICU admission to HA-BSI | Late ICU-acquired (>7 days) | 1 | 1 |
| | Early ICU-acquired (≤ 7 days) | 1.1 [0.88;1.38] | 1.16 [1.00;1.36] |
| | Acquired prior to ICU admission | 0.74 [0.56;0.98] | 0.97 [0.80;1.18] |
| SOFA score (Excluding the cardiovascular component) at HA-BSI | | 1.2 [1.16;1.24] | 1.13 [1.10;1.16] |
| Vasopressin at HA-BSI | | 1.46 [0.89;2.4] | 1.13 [0.85;1.50] |
| Septic shock at HA-BSI | No sepsis or sepsis (no septic shock) | 1 | 1 |
| | Septic shock at HA-BSI (no steroids) | 1.59 [1.22;2.06] | 1.52 [1.27;1.80] |
| | Septic shock at HA-BSI (received steroids) | 2.26 [1.67;3.05] | 1.83 [1.52;2.19] |
| DTR Gram-negative bacteria | | 1.48 [1.1;1.99] | 1.29 [1.08;1.55] |
| Fungus | | 1.14 [0.81;1.6] | 0.96 [0.76;1.22] |
| Most likely source of infection | Intravascular catheter | 1 | 1 |
| | Intra-abdominal | 0.95 [0.68;1.33] | 0.94 [0.75;1.18] |
| | Other | 0.88 [0.58;1.33] | 0.94 [0.71;1.24] |
| | Primary | 1 [0.7;1.43] | 1.02 [0.79;1.30] |
| | Respiratory | 1.18 [0.86;1.62] | 1.06 [0.86;1.31] |
| | Urinary | 0.77 [0.49;1.2] | 0.92 [0.67;1.26] |
| Source control | Not required | 1 | 1 |
| | Required, achieved | 0.71 [0.54;0.92] | 0.67 [0.56;0.80] |
| | Required, but NOT achieved | 2.51 [1.74;3.63] | 1.74 [1.39;2.17] |
| Adequate antimicrobial therapy within 24h of HA-BSI | | 0.85 [0.69;1.04] | 0.98 [0.85;1.12] |

Legend: Initially planned the hierarchical logistic mixed model and comparison with a competing risk frailty model. The covariance parameters for the logistic model (3-level hierarchical logistic regression) are as follows: Country-Level 3 (estimate: 0.08314, Standard error (SE) 0.09173), Center-Level 2 (estimate 0.4104, SE 0.1037). The c-statistic for the primary model was 0.8279 (95% CI 0.8119; 0.8439), indicating good discrimination. Calibration was tested using a calibration belt as shown below. Income level categories were defined using the United Nations M49 standard. HA-BSI: Hospital-acquired bloodstream infection, SAPS II: Simplified Acute Physiology Score II, TDM: Therapeutic drug monitoring, SOFA: Sequential Organ Failure Assessment. Closed brackets [;] denote inclusive of the end of the range and open brackets]; [denote the exclusion of the end of the range.

| Variable level | | |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| Country | Center | Patient |

Multivariable mixed logistic regression on day-28 mortality with random country and center effects

Multivariable subhazard frailty model on day-28 mortality with a random center effect

Variables

National income level (ref : High-income)
 Upper-middle-income
 Low & lower-middle-income

Type of ICU (ref: Mixed (medical-surgical))
 Medical
 Surgical

Clinical pharmacists are consulted (ref: When required, 24/7)
 During business hours or as part of the permanent staff of the ICU
 Never or sporadically

TDM of aminoglycosides is available (ref: Everyday)
 At least once a week
 Not available

TDM of vancomycin is available (ref: Everyday)
 At least once a week
 Not available

Number of Ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU >=15

Charlson comorbidity index (ref: 0)
 1 to 2
 >2

Immunosuppression : Steroids

Chemotherapy / radiotherapy within 6 months

SAPS II on ICU admission without age-related points (ref: <26)
 [26-35]
 [36-47]
 >=48

Age (years) (ref: <52)
 [52-64]
 [65-73]
 >=74

Delay to ICU admission to HA-BSI (ref: Late ICU-acquired (>7 days))
 Early ICU-acquired (<=7 days)
 Acquired prior to ICU admission

SOFA score (Excluding the cardiovascular component) at HA-BSI

Vasopressin at HA-BSI

Septic shock at HA-BSI (ref: No sepsis or sepsis (no septic shock))
 Septic shock at HA-BSI (no steroids)
 Septic shock at HA-BSI (steroids administered)

DTR Gram-negative bacteria

Fungus

Source of HA-BSI (ref: Intravascular catheter)
 Intra-abdominal
 Other
 Primary
 Respiratory
 Urinary

Source control (ref: Not required)
 Required, achieved
 Required, but NOT achieved

Adequate antimicrobial therapy within first 24 hours

OR [95% CI]

0.83 [0.47 ; 1.48]
 1.14 [0.71 ; 1.83]

1.31 [0.88 ; 1.95]
 1.02 [0.59 ; 1.75]

1.19 [0.84 ; 1.68]
 1.69 [1.17 ; 2.43]

1.31 [0.69 ; 2.5]
 1.41 [0.83 ; 2.39]

0.66 [0.38 ; 1.17]
 0.99 [0.58 ; 1.71]

0.88 [0.68 ; 1.16]

1.32 [1.03 ; 1.69]
 1.26 [0.97 ; 1.65]

1.44 [0.95 ; 2.2]
 1.23 [0.86 ; 1.76]

0.79 [0.6 ; 1.05]
 0.83 [0.62 ; 1.11]
 0.95 [0.7 ; 1.28]

1.47 [1.11 ; 1.95]
 1.47 [1.09 ; 1.97]
 2.5 [1.86 ; 3.36]

1.1 [0.88 ; 1.38]
 0.74 [0.56 ; 0.98]

1.2 [1.16 ; 1.24]

1.46 [0.89 ; 2.4]

1.59 [1.22 ; 2.06]
 2.26 [1.67 ; 3.05]

1.48 [1.1 ; 1.99]

1.14 [0.81 ; 1.6]

0.95 [0.68 ; 1.33]
 0.88 [0.58 ; 1.33]
 1 [0.7 ; 1.43]
 1.18 [0.86 ; 1.62]
 0.77 [0.49 ; 1.2]

0.71 [0.54 ; 0.92]
 2.51 [1.74 ; 3.63]

0.85 [0.69 ; 1.04]

sHR [95% CI]

0.86 [0.65 ; 1.14]
 1.10 [0.91 ; 1.34]

1.14 [0.96 ; 1.36]
 0.83 [0.61 ; 1.11]

1.08 [0.89 ; 1.32]
 1.31 [1.08 ; 1.58]

1.23 [0.89 ; 1.70]
 1.37 [1.07 ; 1.75]

0.87 [0.65 ; 1.16]
 0.81 [0.63 ; 1.05]

0.85 [0.74 ; 0.98]

1.26 [1.05 ; 1.51]
 1.23 [1.01 ; 1.49]

1.14 [0.88 ; 1.48]
 1.16 [0.91 ; 1.47]

0.79 [0.65 ; 0.96]
 0.70 [0.57 ; 0.86]
 0.79 [0.64 ; 0.97]

1.22 [0.99 ; 1.49]
 1.23 [1.00 ; 1.52]
 1.51 [1.22 ; 1.85]

1.16 [1.00 ; 1.36]
 0.97 [0.80 ; 1.18]

1.13 [1.10 ; 1.16]

1.13 [0.85 ; 1.50]

1.52 [1.27 ; 1.80]
 1.83 [1.52 ; 2.19]

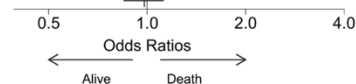
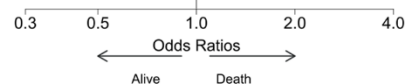
1.29 [1.08 ; 1.55]

0.96 [0.76 ; 1.22]

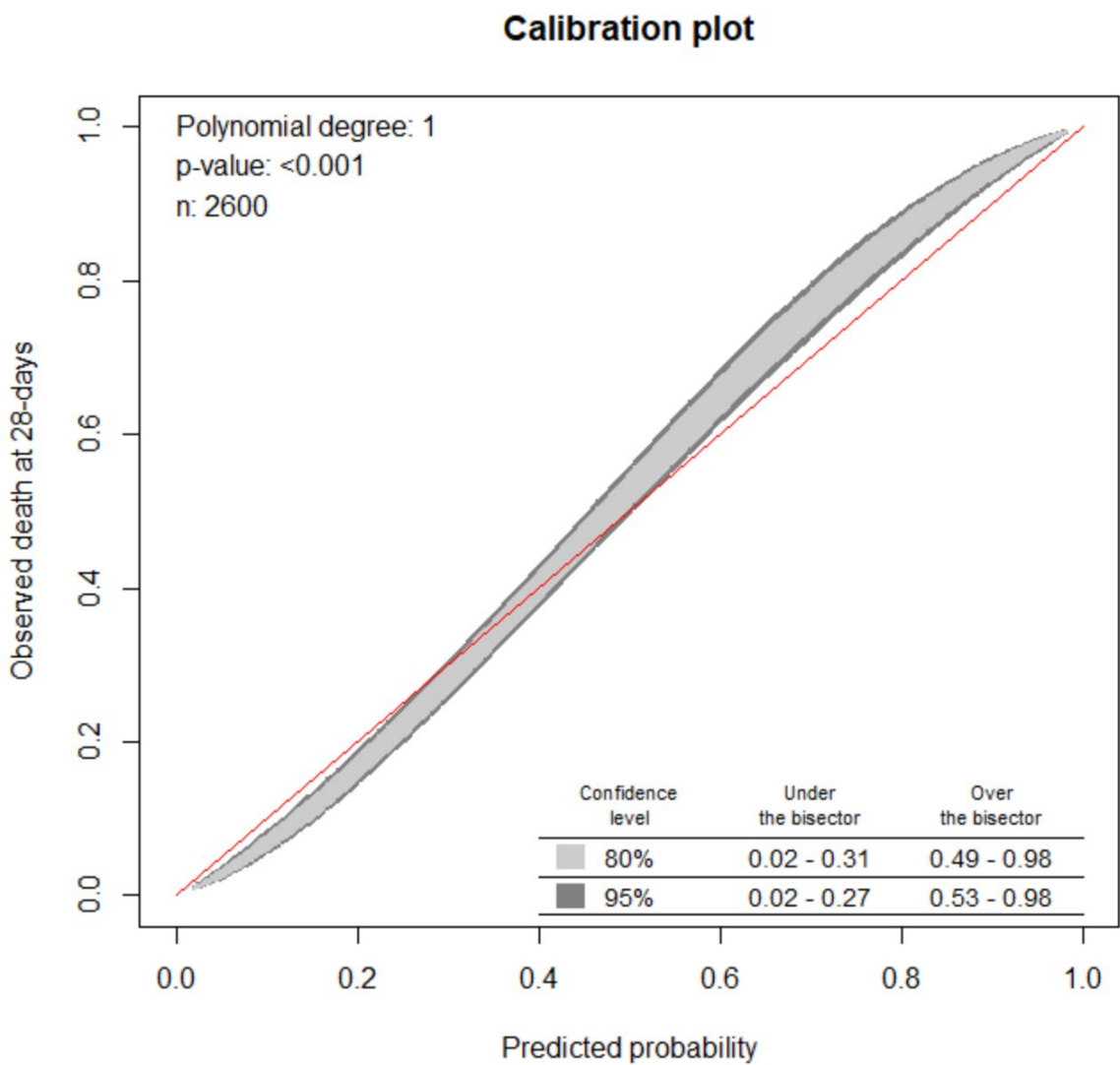
0.94 [0.75 ; 1.18]
 0.94 [0.71 ; 1.24]
 1.02 [0.79 ; 1.30]
 1.06 [0.86 ; 1.31]
 0.92 [0.67 ; 1.26]

0.67 [0.56 ; 0.80]
 1.74 [1.39 ; 2.17]

0.98 [0.85 ; 1.12]



eFigure 4: Calibration belt for the hierarchical logistic model.



Legend: Calibration belt, following the recommendations by Nattino et al. (2017), showing poor calibration. Given that our primary goal was to describe clinical features of HA-BSI patients and associations with mortality, we chose to fully pre-specify clinically relevant variables to be introduced in the model and have not attempted to improve model calibration through addition or deletion of variables, techniques of handling variables or other model specifications. Our preference was to present clinically relevant variables and their associations with mortality that physicians may use at the bedside.

eTable 6 Sensitivity analysis: Hierarchical logistic mixed model with random effects for country and ICU, excluding the 276 patients with a COVID-19 diagnosis.

Legend:

| | | Hierarchical logistic mixed model |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Variable | items | OR [CI 95%] |
| National income level | High-Income | 1 |
| | Upper-middle-income | 0.9 [0.5;1.61] |
| | Low & Lower-middle-income | 1.18 [0.73;1.91] |
| Type of ICU | Mixed (medical-surgical) | 1 |
| | Medical | 1.38 [0.92;2.07] |
| | Surgical | 1.12 [0.65;1.91] |
| Clinical pharmacists are consulted | When required, 24/7 | 1 |
| | During business hours or part of the ICU staff | 1.14 [0.81;1.62] |
| | Never or sporadically | 1.64 [1.13;2.38] |
| TDM of aminoglycosides is available | Everyday | 1 |
| | At least once a week | 1.41 [0.75;2.69] |
| | Not available | 1.52 [0.89;2.59] |
| TDM of vancomycin is available | Everyday | 1 |
| | At least once a week | 0.67 [0.38;1.17] |
| | Not available | 0.89 [0.52;1.52] |
| Number of Ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU ≥ 15 | | 0.86 [0.65;1.14] |
| Charlson comorbidity index | 0 | 1 |
| | 1 to 2 | 1.29 [0.99;1.68] |
| | >2 | 1.19 [0.9;1.58] |
| Immunosuppression: Steroids | | 1.52 [0.98;2.35] |
| Chemotherapy / radiotherapy within 6 months | | 1.29 [0.9;1.84] |
| SAPS II on ICU admission without age-related points | < 26 | 1 |
| | [26-35] | 0.71 [0.52;0.98] |
| | [36-47] | 0.84 [0.61;1.16] |
| | ≥ 48 | 0.96 [0.69;1.34] |
| Age (years) | < 52 | 1 |
| | [52-64] | 1.54 [1.14;2.08] |
| | [65-73] | 1.43 [1.04;1.95] |
| | ≥ 74 | 2.6 [1.91;3.55] |
| Time from ICU admission to HA-BSI | Late ICU-acquired (>7 days) | 1 |
| | Early ICU-acquired (≤ 7 days) | 1.13 [0.89;1.45] |
| | Acquired prior to ICU admission | 0.81 [0.6;1.08] |
| SOFA score (Excluding the cardiovascular component) at HA-BSI | | 1.23 [1.19;1.28] |
| Vasopressin at HA-BSI | | 1.56 [0.95;2.58] |
| Septic shock at HA-BSI | No sepsis or sepsis (no septic shock) | 1 |
| | Septic shock at HA-BSI (no steroids) | 1.52 [1.15;2] |
| | Septic shock at HA-BSI (received steroids) | 2.08 [1.51;2.87] |
| DTR Gram-negative bacteria | | 1.38 [1.01;1.89] |
| Fungus | | 1.4 [1.01;1.92] |
| Most likely source of infection | Intravascular catheter | 1 |
| | Intra-abdominal | 1.06 [0.75;1.5] |
| | Other | 0.99 [0.65;1.52] |
| | Primary | 1 [0.68;1.48] |
| | Respiratory | 1.18 [0.83;1.66] |
| | Urinary | 0.87 [0.55;1.39] |
| Source control | Not required | 1 |
| | Required, achieved | 0.75 [0.57;0.99] |
| | Required, but NOT achieved | 2.59 [1.77;3.8] |
| Adequate antimicrobial therapy within 24h of HA-BSI | | 0.84 [0.68;1.04] |

Sensitivity analysis conducted on 2324 patients after exclusion of the 276 patients with a COVID-19 diagnosis, Income level categories were defined using the United Nations M49 standard. DTR: difficult-to-treat resistance, HA-BSI: Hospital-acquired Bloodstream Infection, ICU: intensive care unit, SAPS II: Simplified Acute Physiology Score II, SOFA: Sequential Organ Failure Assessment, TDM: Therapeutic drug monitoring. Closed brackets [;] denote inclusive of the end of the range and open brackets]; [denote the exclusion of the end of the range.

eTable 7 Sensitivity analysis: Hierarchical logistic mixed model with random effects for country and ICU, investigating carbapenem resistance instead of difficult to treat resistance.

| | | Hierarchical logistic mixed model |
|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Variable | items | OR [CI 95%] |
| National income level | High-Income | 1 |
| | Upper-middle-income | 0.83 [0.46;1.48] |
| | Low & Lower-middle-income | 1.14 [0.71;1.84] |
| Type of ICU | Mixed (medical-surgical) | 1 |
| | Medical | 1.3 [0.87;1.94] |
| | Surgical | 1.02 [0.59;1.75] |
| Clinical pharmacists are consulted | When required, 24/7 | 1 |
| | During business hours or part of the ICU staff | 1.19 [0.84;1.68] |
| | Never or sporadically | 1.68 [1.16;2.42] |
| TDM of aminoglycosides is available | Everyday | 1 |
| | At least once a week | 1.31 [0.69;2.49] |
| | Not available | 1.39 [0.82;2.38] |
| TDM of vancomycin is available | Everyday | 1 |
| | At least once a week | 0.67 [0.38;1.18] |
| | Not available | 1 [0.58;1.72] |
| Number of Ventilator equivalent beds in the ICU ≥15 | | 0.88 [0.67;1.16] |
| Charlson comorbidity index | 0 | 1 |
| | 1 to 2 | 1.32 [1.03;1.69] |
| | >2 | 1.27 [0.97;1.65] |
| Immunosuppression: Steroids | | 1.41 [0.93;2.16] |
| Chemotherapy / radiotherapy within 6 months | | 1.24 [0.86;1.77] |
| SAPS II on ICU admission without age-related points | < 26 | 1 |
| | [26-35] | 0.79 [0.6;1.05] |
| | [36-47] | 0.84 [0.62;1.12] |
| | ≥48 | 0.95 [0.7;1.29] |
| Age (years) | <52 | 1 |
| | [52-64] | 1.48 [1.11;1.96] |
| | [65-73] | 1.47 [1.1;1.98] |
| | ≥74 | 2.52 [1.88;3.38] |
| Time from ICU admission to HA-BSI | Late ICU-acquired (>7 days) | 1 |
| | Early ICU-acquired (≤7 days) | 1.1 [0.88;1.38] |
| | Acquired prior to ICU admission | 0.74 [0.56;0.98] |
| SOFA score (Excluding the cardiovascular component) at HA-BSI | | 1.23 [1.18;1.27] |
| Vasopressin at HA-BSI | | 1.49 [0.91;2.43] |
| Septic shock at HA-BSI | No sepsis or sepsis (no septic shock) | 1 |
| | Septic shock at HA-BSI (no steroids) | 1.58 [1.22;2.05] |
| | Septic shock at HA-BSI (received steroids) | 2.26 [1.67;3.06] |
| Carbapenem resistant enterobacterales | | 1.31 [1.02;1.68] |
| Fungus | | 1.15 [0.81;1.62] |
| Most likely source of infection | Intravascular catheter | 1 |
| | Intra-abdominal | 0.95 [0.68;1.33] |
| | Other | 0.88 [0.58;1.33] |
| | Primary | 1 [0.7;1.43] |
| | Respiratory | 1.18 [0.86;1.62] |
| | Urinary | 0.77 [0.49;1.2] |
| Source control | Not required | 1 |
| | Required, achieved | 0.71 [0.55;0.92] |
| | Required, but NOT achieved | 2.48 [1.72;3.59] |
| Adequate antimicrobial therapy within 24h of HA-BSI | | 0.85 [0.7;1.04] |

Legend: Sensitivity analysis computed by imputing carbapenem resistance in Gram-negative pathogens in place of DTR. Income level categories were defined using the United Nations M49 standard. DTR: difficult-to-treat resistance, HA-BSI: Hospital-acquired Bloodstream Infection, ICU: intensive care unit, SAPS II: Simplified Acute Physiology Score II, SOFA: Sequential Organ Failure Assessment, TDM: Therapeutic drug monitoring. Closed brackets [;] denote inclusive of the end of the range and open brackets]; [denote the exclusion of the end of the range.

The Eurobact 2 study group: National coordinators, scientific committee, and participating intensive care units.

East Asia and Pacific

Australia

National Coordinator: A/Prof. Alexis Tabah

Scientific Committee: Prof. Jeffrey Lipman

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Brunei

National Coordinator: Dr. Khalid Mk Nafees

Participating ICUs: Ripas Hospital, Icu 3: Dr Khalid Mahmood Khan Nafees. Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Hospital, Icu1: Dr Nurhikmahtul Aqilah Haji Abd Rashid, Dr Haji Adi Muhamad Ibnu Walid. Gleneagles Jpmc, Icu: Dr Tomas Mon, Dr P. Dhakshina Moorthi. Suri Seri Begawan Hospital, Intensive Care Unit: Dr Shah Sudhirschandra, Dr Dhadappa Damodar Sridharan.

China

National Coordinator: Dr. Qiu Haibo and Dr. Jianfeng Xie

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Hong Kong

National Coordinator: Dr. Lowell Ling

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Japan

National Coordinator: Dr. Yoshiro Hayashi

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Malaysia

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Philippines

National Coordinator: Dr. Aaron Mark Hernandez

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Republic Of Korea

National Coordinator: Dr Kyeongman Jeon

Participating ICUs: Samsung Medical Center, Medical Icu: Dr Kyeongman Jeon. Seoul National University Hospital, Medical Icu: Dr Sang-Min Lee. Hallym University Sacred Heart Hospital, Micu: Dr Sunghoon Park. Micu, Chonbuk National University Hospital: Prof Dr Seung Yong Park. Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Medical Icu: Dr Sung Yoon Lim.

Singapore

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Taiwan

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Thailand

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Middle East and North Africa

Dubai

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Egypt

National Coordinator: Dr. Adel Alsisi

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Iran

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Iraq

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Israel

National Coordinator: Prof. Pierre Singer

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Jordan

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Lebanon

National Coordinator: Dr Fayez Abillama

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Libya

National Coordinator: Dr. Muhammed Elhadi

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Morocco

National Coordinator: Prof. Khalid Abidi

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Palestine

Participating ICUs: ICU, Alia governmental hospital, Hebron / West Bank, Palestine: Dr. Sarah Amro. Gaza city, Alshifaa hospital, Gaza, Palestine: DR. Mustafa Abu Jayyab.

Qatar

National Coordinator: Dr Ali Aithssain

Participating ICUs: Hamad General Hospital, Medical Icu: Dr Ali Ait Hssain, Dr Abdurahaman Elbuzidi. Al Wakrah Hospital, Critical Care: Dr Edin Karic. Hamad General Hospital, Sicu: Dr Marcus Lance, Dr Shaikh Nissar.

Saudi Arabia

Participating ICUs: King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Center, Adult Critical Care Medicine: Dr Hend Sallam. Prince Sultan Medical Military Center, Intensive Care Unit: Dr Omar Elrabi, Dr Ghaleb A Almekhlafi. Security Force Hospital - Riyadh, Critical Care Unit: Dr Maher Awad, Dr Ahmed Aljabbary.

Syria

Participating ICUs: Al Mouwasat University Hospital, Icu: Dr Mohammad Karam Chaaban. Assad University Hospital, Neurological Intensive Care Unit: Dr Natalia Abu-Sayf. Damascus University Cardiac Surgery Hospital Near Al-Mouwasat University Hospital, Mazzeh Kiwan, Cardiac Surgery Icu: Dr Mohammad Al-Jadaan, Miss Lubna Bakr.

Tunisia

National Coordinator: Dr Mounir Bouaziz

Participating ICUs: Habib Bourguiba University Hospital, Department of Intensive Care: Dr Mounir Bouaziz, Dr Olfa Turki. Military Hospital of Tunis, Department of Anesthesiology And Intensive Care Unit, Lr12dn01: Pr Walid Sellami.

Latin America and The Caribbean

Argentina

National Coordinator: Dr. Gabriela Vidal

Participating ICUs: Hcas Cuenca Alta, Terapia Intensiva: Dr Pablo Centeno, Lic Natalia Morvillo. Hospital Central De Formosa, Servicio De Terapia Intensiva: Dr José Oscar Acevedo, Dr Patricia Mabel Lopez. Hospital Español De Mendoza, Terapia Intensiva De Adultos: Dr Rubén Fernández, Dr Matías Segura. Hospital Zatti, Ucia: Dra Marta Aparicio, Microbiologa Irene Alonzo. Instituto De Diagnostico De La Plata, Unidad De Terapia Intensiva: Dr Yanina Nuccetelli, Dr Pablo Montefiore.

Colombia

National Coordinator: Mario Arias

Participating ICUs: Clinica Universidad De La Sabana, Critical Care Unit : Dr Luis Felipe Reyes. Universidad De La Sabana, Infectious Diseases Department: Dr Luis Felipe Reyes.

Mexico

National Coordinator: Dr Silvio A. Ñamendys-Silva

Participating ICUs: Hospital Medica Sur, Department of Critical Care Medicine: Dr Silvio A. Ñamendys-Silva, Dr Juan P. Romero-Gonzalez. Centenario Hospital Miguel Hidalgo, Centenario Hospital Miguel Hidalgo: Dr Mariana Hermosillo, Dr Roberto Alejandro Castillo. Hospital General De Zona 14, Intensive Care Unit: Dr Jesús Nicolás Pantoja Leal, Dr Candy Garcia Aguilar. Hospital General Regional No.1, IMSS Tlaxcala: Dr Mara Ocotlan Gonzalez Herrera, Dr Missael Vladimir Espinoza Villafuerte. Hospital H+ Queretaro, Unidad De Terapia Intensiva Adultos: Dr Manuel Lomeli-Teran. Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Medicas y Nutricion Salvador Zubiran, Division of Pulmonary, Anesthesia and Critical Care Medicine: Dr Jose G. Dominguez-Cherit, Dr Adrian Davalos-Alvarez, Dr Silvio A. Ñamendys-Silva. UMAE Hospital de Especialidades Antonio Fraga Mouret, Centro Médico Nacional La RazaIMSS, Terapia Intensiva Hospital de Especialidades CMN La Raza: Dr Luis Sánchez-Hurtado, Dr Brigitte Tejeda-Huezo. Hospital General San Juan del Rio, Querétaro, , Unidad de Terapia Intensiva de Adultos: Dr Orlando R Perez-Nieto, Dr Ernesto Deloya Tomas.

Europe And Central Asia

Belgium

National Coordinator: Dr. Liesbet De Bus

Scientific Committee: Prof. Jan De Waele

Recruitment of participating ICUs worldwide: Mr. Guy Francois

Participating ICUs: Ghent University Hospital, Intensive Care Unit: Dr Liesbet De Bus, Dr Jan De Waele. A.S.Z., Iz: Dr Isabelle Hollevoet. Az Nikolaas, Icu: Dr Wouter Denys. Az Sint-Jan Av Brugge - Oostende Campus Brugge, Icu: Dr Marc Bourgeois. Az Sint-Lucas, Department of Intensive Care: Dr Sofie F.M. Vanderhaeghen. Centre Hospitalier De Jolimont, Soins Intensifs : Dr Jean-Baptiste Mesland, Dr Pierre Henin. Chu Ambroise Paré, Unité Des Soins Intensifs : Dr Lionel Haentjens. Chu Charleroi, Medico-Surgical Icu: Dr Patrick Biston, Mrs Cindérélla Noel. Chu Liège, Soins Intensifs : Dr Nathalie Layos, Dr Benoît Misset. Clinique Saint-Pierre, Intensive Care Unit : Dr Nicolas De Schryver, Dr Nicolas Serck. Cliniques Universitaires Saint-Luc, UCLouvain, Soins Intensifs : Dr Xavier Wittebole. Uzbrussel, Intensieve Zorgen: Prof Elisabeth De Waele, Mrs Godelive Opdenacker.

Bosnia And Herzegovina

National Coordinator: Dr Pedja Kovacevic

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Croatia

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France

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Germany

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Kazakhstan

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Greece

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Italy

National Coordinator: Prof. Matteo Bassetti and Dr. Daniele Giacobbe

Participating ICUs: Città Della Salute E Della Scienza - Molinette, Anestesia E Rianimazione Universitaria: Dr Giorgia Montrucchio, Dr Gabriele Sales. Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli Irccs. Università Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore. Italy, Uoc Di Anestesia, Rianimazione, Terapia Intensiva E Tossicologia Clinica: Dr Gennaro De Pascale, Dr Luca Maria Montini, Dr Simone Carelli, Dr Joel Vargas, Ms Valentina Di Gravio. Irccs Ospedale Policlinico San Martino, U.O. Anestesia E Rianimazione: Prof Daniele Roberto Giacobbe, Dr Angelo Gratarola, Dr Elisa Porcile, Dr Michele Mirabella. Irccs Sacro Cuore Don Calabria, Terapia Intensiva: Dr Ivan Daroui, Dr Giovanni Lodi. Madonna Delle Grazie, U.O.C. Anestesia E Rianimazione: Dr Francesco Zuccaro, Dr Maria Grazia Schlevenin. Ospedale Policlinico San Martino, Irccs Per L'oncologia E Le Neuroscienze, Uo Clinica Anestesiologica E Terapia Intensiva: Prof Paolo Pelosi, Dr Denise Battaglini. Policlinico Paolo Giaccone, Università Degli Studi Di Palermo, Terapia Intensiva Polivalente: Dr Andrea Cortegiani, Dr Mariachiara Ippolito, Dr Davide Bellina, Dr Andrea Di Guardo. Regina Elena National Cancer Institute of Rome, Anesthesia and Intensive Care Department: Dr Lorella Pelagalli, Dr Marco Covotta. Sant'andrea Hospital Sapienza University of Rome, Department of Medical And Surgical Science And Translational Medicine Intensive Care Unit: Dr Monica Rocco, Dr Silvia Fiorelli. University Hospital O.O.R.R., Department of Anesthesia And Intensive Care: Prof Antonella Cotoia, Dr Anna Chiara Rizzo.

Poland

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