

## Efficacy and Safety of Teicoplanin-Containing Antibiotic Regimens in Febrile Neutropenic Children with Cancer

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### AIM

The aim of this study is to estimate the efficacy and safety of teicoplanin in febrile neutropenic children with cancer.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

This glycopeptide antibiotic was given to 48 patients for 68 episodes of catheter-related bacteremia during neutropenia ( $<500/\text{mm}^3$ ). Patients' mean age was 8.6 years (range 2.5-15), 26 were boys and 22 girls. They suffered from both haematological neoplasias and solid tumours. Patients were treated in all 66 febrile episodes with teicoplanin (10 mg/kg/d) i.v. in combination with ceftazidime (150 mg/kg/d) and netilmicin (7 mg/kg/d) i.v.

### RESULTS

Clinical response (afebrile on the 3rd day) occurred in 64/66 episodes (93.5%). 38/66 teicoplanin-treated patients showed negative blood cultures on the 4th day (microbiological response). In two patients, antifungals were added but they died due to hemorrhage. Daily biochemical assessment of kidney and liver function remained normal.

From our results it would appear that empirical regimens entalling teicoplanin have excellent clinical efficacy in immunosuppressed children with malignancies. Teicoplanin isn't likely to induce allergic reactions or nephrotoxicity and/or hepatotoxicity as seen by our follow-up investigations. In addition Teicoplanin is administered only once daily.