

Challenges in ventilator-associated pneumonia



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Conflicts of interest

None

@ ESCMID eLibrary
by author



These... the true 4 challenges?!

Do you want more evidence???

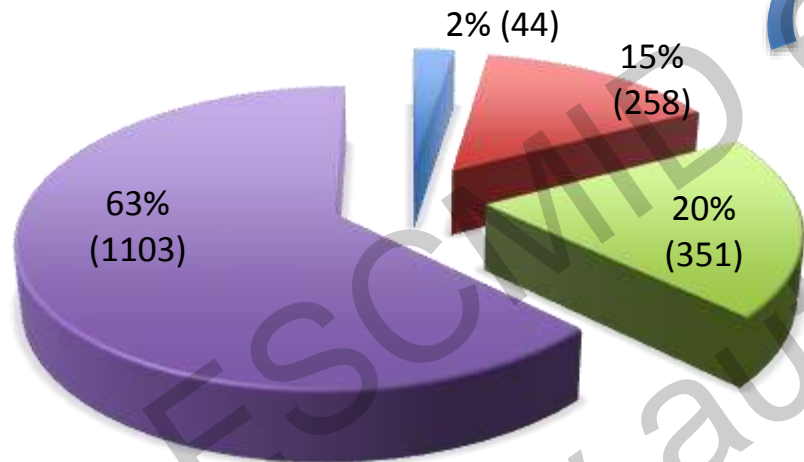
Prevention didn't work...

...the situation's diagnose: bad...

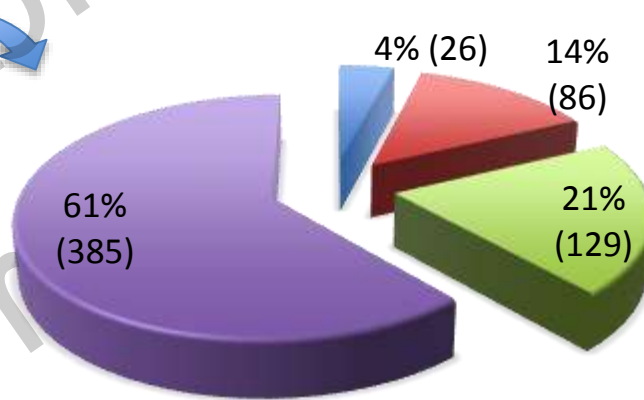
...so now, how do we solve it?

Evidence

VAP literature
(1756 articles)



Last 5 years
(626 articles)



■ SR & MA ■ RCT ■ Observational studies ■ Rest

Extended Prevalence of Infection in Intensive Care (EPIC II) study – 1265 ICUs, 75 countries

51% of adults admitted to ICU have an infection

64% have a respiratory infection

Attributable mortality is approx. 13% (controversial issue)

Implies an increased duration of mechanical ventilation + ICU stay → increase in the costs

Clinical case

28 years old woman.

Admitted to the hospital one week ago:
vaginal delivery of first child.
No complications.
Discharged home after 3 days.

Presents to ED with:

- Fever of 40°C with chills (started 48 hours ago)
- Tachycardia 140bpm
- BP 75/40mmHg
- RR 40x', SatO₂ 93% with nasal cannula at 2lx'



Clinical case

Probable septic shock due to retained products inside the uterus.

To-do list:

- Intubation & ventilation
- Fluid resuscitation
- Initiation of empiric therapy (ampicillin + clindamycin + minocycline)
- Blood cultures
- Call Gynecology for vaginal echography
- Diagnose retained placenta → Evacuation of the products



Clinical case

But... profuse bleeding during the procedure.
Hb 5g/dL, BP 70/40mmHg.
Hypovolemic shock due to hemorrhage.

- Control the bleeding.
 - Transfusion + fluid resuscitation + vasoactive drugs.
- Admission to ICU immediately after surgery.

Hemodynamically unstable for 7 days, needing vasoactive drugs.

Prevention

Complications to expect

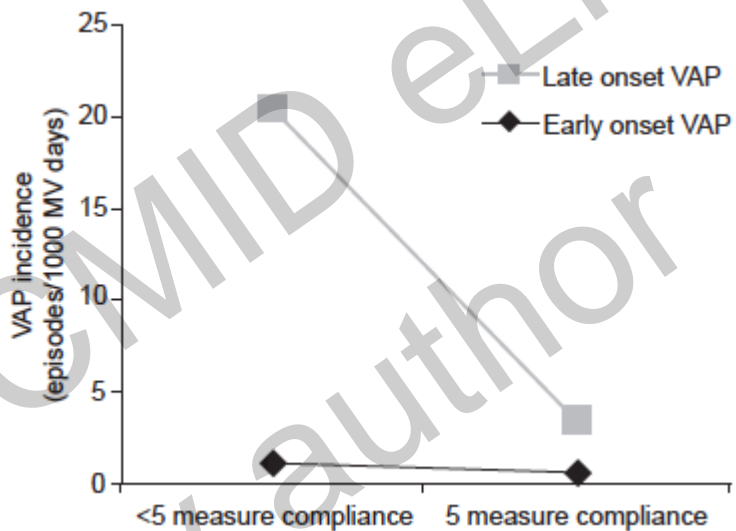
- Abdominal: peritonitis, adnexal infection, pelvic abscess, wound infection...
- Respiratory: **VAP**

European Care Bundles for VAP prevention

- Hand hygiene (specially before manipulation of the ventilator's circuit)
- Avoiding changes of the ventilator's circuit
- Oral hygiene (chlorhexidine mouthwashes)
- Adequate cuff pressure
- Avoiding hypersedation

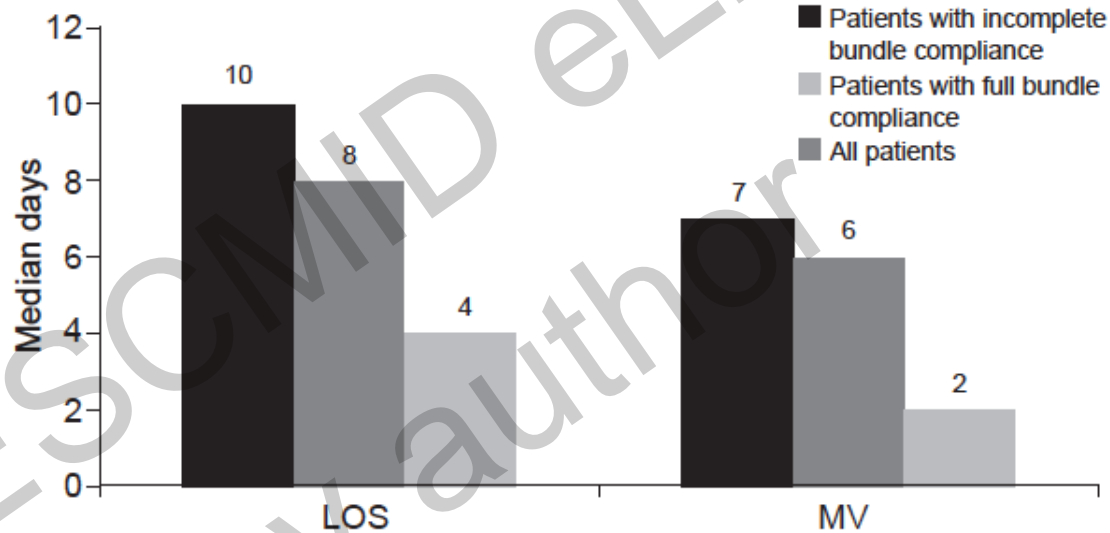
Prevention

VAP incidence according to compliance



Prevention

ICU length of stay and MV duration according to compliance



Back to our clinical case...

4th day after admission.

Hemodynamically stable, but in the last 24 hours...

- Worsening hypoxia
- Fever

Exam:

No air entrance at all in her right basal lung... and diffused crackles.

Back to our clinical case...



Diagnose

You suspect that she has a VAP... but how can we diagnose her?

Tarragona



Paris
(La Pitié-Salpêtrière)



Toronto
(Toronto Western Hospital)



Diagnose

You suspect that she has a VAP... but how can we diagnose her?

Tarragona

Medical-Surgical ICU

- No scores
- CRP
- ETA / PSB culture
- Start antibiotics

Paris
(La Pitié-Salpêtrière)

Medical-Surgical Cardiac ICU

- No scores
- CRP and PCT
- BAL
- Direct microscopic examination of cytocentrifuged BALF stained with modified Wright-Giemsa stain (Diff-Quick)
- Start antibiotics

Toronto
(Toronto Western Hospital)

Neurosurgical ICU

- CPIS score > 6
- No CRP or PCT
- BAL
- Start antibiotics

Diagnose

Why those different approaches?

LOW SENSITIVITY & SPECIFICITY

HIGH INTEROBSERVER VARIABILITY

NO GOLD STANDARD

Therapy

Tarragona

Pseudomonas aeruginosa
Acinetobacter baumannii
MSSA

Empirical therapy:

Tarragona Strategy
Meropenem + amikacin

Paris (La Pitié-Salpêtrière)

Pseudomona aeruginosa
ESBL *Klebsiella* spp.
Other *Enterobacteriaceae*

Empirical therapy:

3rd generation cephalosporin +
fluoroquinolone

Toronto (Toronto Western Hospital)

Staphylococcus aureus
Haemophilus influenzae
Pseudomona aeruginosa

Empirical therapy:

Piperacillin/tazobactam +
vancomycin

The 10 points of the Tarragona Strategy

1. Started without delay
1. Choice of agent should be based on the regimen that the patient has received previously
1. Targeted based on direct stains
1. Modified based on microbiological findings
5. COPD patients or MV >1week should receive combination therapy

6. MSSA strongly suspected if GCS<8. MRSA is not expected if no prior antibiotics
7. Vancomycin for MRSA-VAP has a very poor outcome
8. Antifungals are not necessary even if colonization by *Candida spp.*
8. Prolonging therapy does not prevent recurrences
8. Guidelines should be customized to local patterns

Therapy

Tarragona

De-escalate according to:

- Clinical evolution to monotherapy
- Results of the respiratory specimen to narrow spectrum

Stop according to clinical resolution (hypoxemia / fever)

Paris (La Pitié-Salpêtrière)

De-escalate according to:

- Results of the BAL culture to narrow spectrum

Stop according to PCT

Toronto (Toronto Western Hospital)

De-escalate according to:

- Results of the BAL culture to narrow spectrum

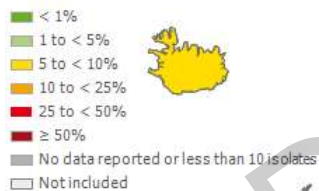
Stop after 7 days

Antibiotic Stewardship rounds

Therapy

Piperacillin/Tazobactam Resistance *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* map

Percentage resistance



■ Liechtenstein
■ Luxembourg
■ Malta

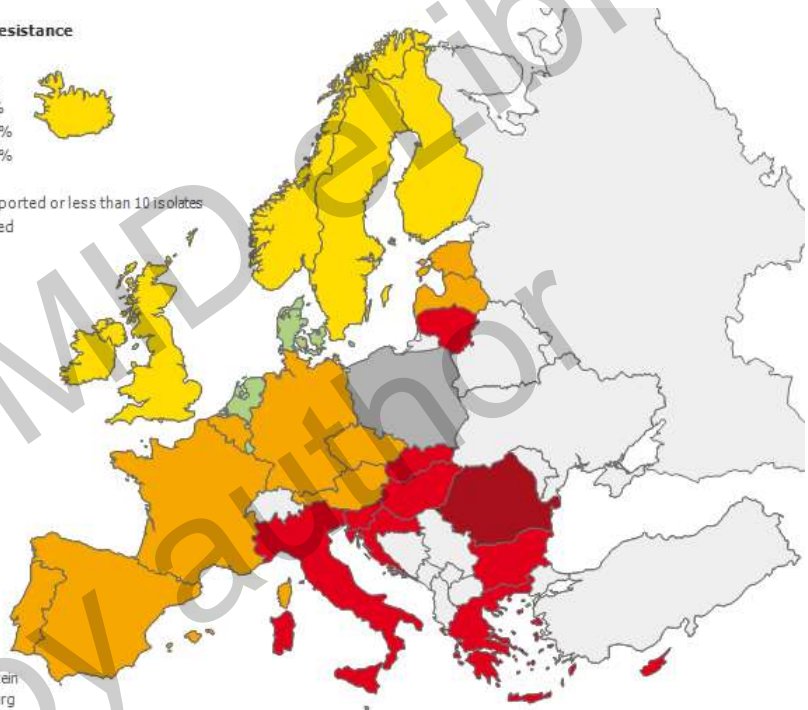
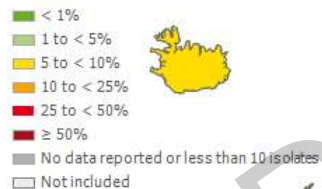
(C) ECDC/Dundes/TESSy

ECDC, 2014

Therapy

Carbapenem Resistance *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* map

Percentage resistance



(C) ECDC/Dundes/TESSy



Clinical Practice Guidelines Nebulized antibiotics for MV patients



Therapy

Indications to guide prescription of nebulized antibiotics

Characteristic	Asia (n = 37), n (%)	Europe (n = 32), n (%)	Australasia, Latin America and North America (n = 18), n (%)	Total (n = 87), n (%)
Prophylaxis immunocompetent	5 (13.5)	1 (3.1)	0 (0)	6 (6.8)
Prophylaxis immunocompromised	12 (32.4)	7 (21.8)	4 (22.2)	23 (26.4)
Empirical treatment for increased pulmonary secretions	10 (27)	1 (3.1)	0 (0)	11 (12.6)
Empirical treatment for fever or leucocytosis	10 (27)	2 (6.2)	0 (0)	12 (13.7)
Empirical treatment for decreased PaFiO ₂	5 (13.5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	5 (5.7)
Empirical treatment for pulmonary x-ray infiltrates	6 (16.2)	1 (3.1)	0 (0)	7 (8)
Positive pulmonary specimen cultures	10 (27)	8 (25)	4 (22.2)	22 (25.2)
Positive pulmonary specimen cultures with MDRO	20 (54)	30 (93.7)	12 (66.6)	62 (71.2)

MDRO, multidrug resistant organism.

Other aspects of VAP not covered in this talk...

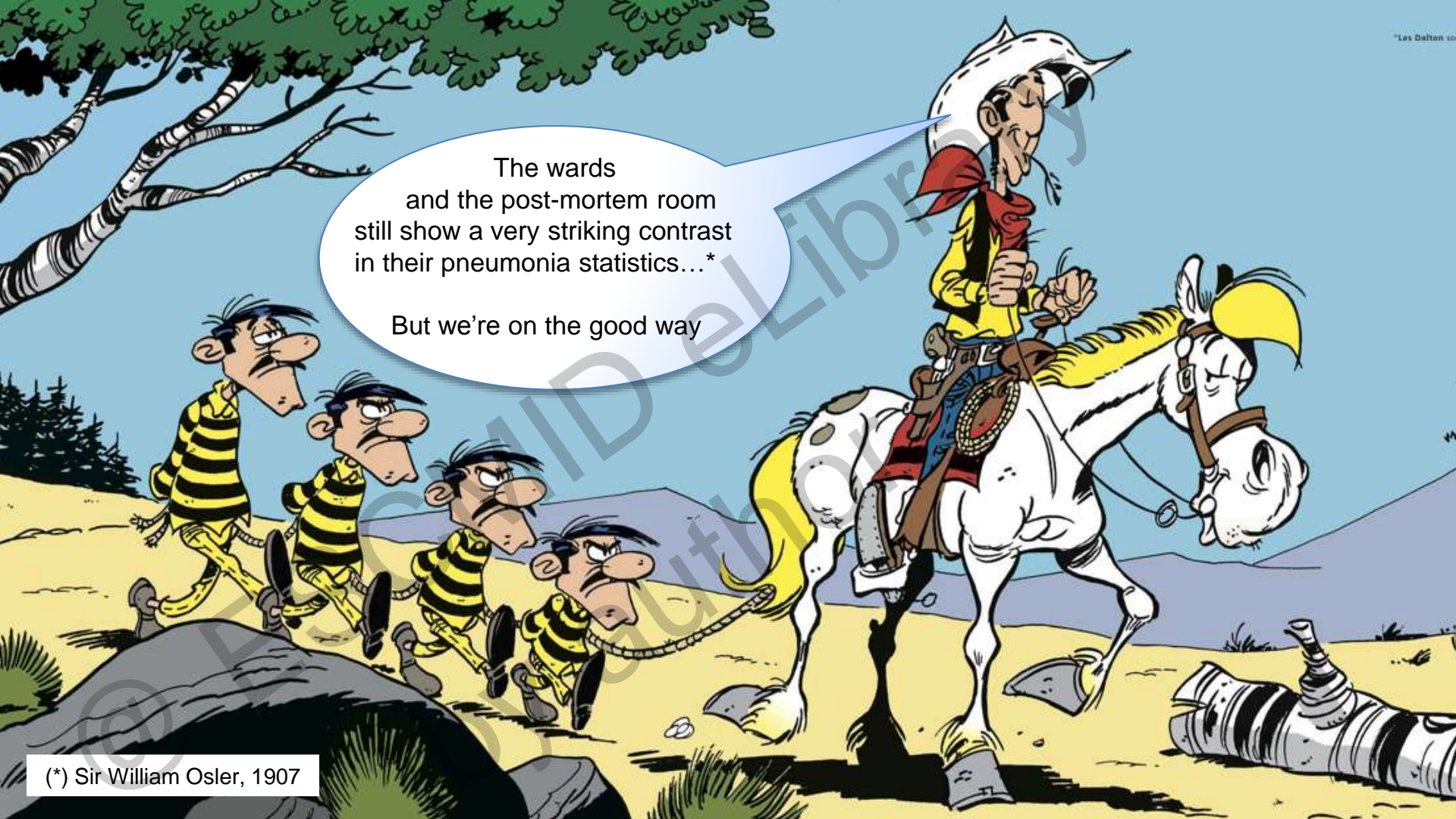
- Ventilator-associated tracheobronchitis
- Need for radiologic images?
- Molecular diagnosis tests

@

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by author

Conclusions

1. Best prevention: avoid artificial airway
1. Lack of diagnostic gold standard
2. Personalized therapy according to local resistances and comorbidities



The wards
and the post-mortem room
still show a very striking contrast
in their pneumonia statistics...*

But we're on the good way

(*) Sir William Osler, 1907



Thank you

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