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Abstract (poster session)

**Case series: clinical experience of taurolidine use in 38 complex clinical cases including salvage therapy**

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Background: Taurolidine ([bis(1,1-dioxoperhydro-1,2,4-thiadiazinyl-4)-methane]) is a drug with antimicrobial and anti-lipopolysaccharide properties. Derived from the amino acid taurine, its immunomodulatory action is reported to be mediated with priming and activation of macrophages and polymorphonuclear leukocytes. Its license and literature search reveal its predominant use as a venous line locking system to prevent catheter line infections. We present here clinical experience of taurolidine use in 38-complex cases over 4-years. Methods: Retrospective case notes review of 38-cases over 4-years [July 2007 - till date]. Taurolidine is licensed as a medical device. Its use outside this indication as a salvage therapy was agreed through a treating consultant - consultant microbiologist discussion and after obtaining patient consent Results: The key results from 38-patients include: 57.8% [22/38] males; Age ranged from 15y - 84y, with mean age of 62 years. 28% [7/38] patients were from haematology; followed by 23% [9/38] general surgery; 18% [7/38] cardiothoracic surgery; 15% [6/38] vascular surgery and 13% [5/38] oncology. Commonest indication for use included hickman line lock [following recurrent line infection/removal]. Hickman line used for chemotherapy in 44% [17/38]; followed by total parenteral nutrition and long term antibiotics in 18% [7/38] each; Unusual salvage situations included: 5 cases of infected femoro-popliteal vascular grafts with limb loss potential of 29-70%. 2 cases of pleural irrigation for empyema thoracis with and one case of deep sternal wound infection with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* unresponsive to long term systemic antibiotics. A complex surgical case with enterocutaneous fistula, over a dozen episodes of candidaemia, multiple central line infections had a successful outcome with taurolidine locked hickman line. Duration of taurolidine use ranged from 1 week to 10 weeks with mean of 2.73 weeks. Clinical improvement and successful clearance in regular check cultures was used to define successful outcome. Conclusion: Successful outcomes with taurolidine-citrate, licensed as a medical device, finds its place in several case series and reports. However, its successful use in salvage therapy in complex clinical cases indicates its potential role beyond licensed indication and need for further large randomized controlled studies.

S no	Pt demo	Speciality	Diagnosis	Place of infection	Use of taurolock	Duration
1	67/m	Haematology	AML	Hickman line	Line flush	3 weeks
2	75/f	Vascular	Lower limb Bypass- Dacron- infected	Long term abx line hickman- inf	Line flush	4 weeks
3	69/f	Cardio thorasic	Infected prosthetic valve	Long term abx line Hickman line inf	Line flush	2 weeks
4	60/m	Gen surgery	Leaked anastamosis	TPN line hickman	Line flush	4 weeks
5	41/m	Gen surgery	Intra abdo abscess	TPN hickman line inf	Line flush	3 weeks
6	60/m	Gen surgery	Ca colon post op chemo	Chemo line inf	Line flush	2 weeks
7	19/m	Gen surgery	Entero cutaneous fistula	T P N line infection	line flush	2 weeks
8	54/f	Haematology	AML	Chemo line infection	Line flush	2 weeks
9	27/f	Haematology		Chemo line inf	Line flush	2 weeks
10	64/f	Vascular	Graft infection	Graft flush	Graft flush	1 week
11	56/m	Haematology	AML	Chemo line inf	Line flush	2 weeks
12	77/m	Cardiothorasic	Post CABG STERNAL INF	Sterna infection	Topical flush	3 weeks
13	41/f	Breast Surgery	Ca Bhrast	Chemo line	Line Flush	6 weeks
14	54/f	Breast Surgery	Ca Breast	Chemo line	Line Flush	2 weeks
15	63/m	Haematology	High grade lymphoma	Chemo line	Line flush	2 weeks
16	57/f	Breast Surgery	Ca Breast	Chemo line	Line flush	2 weeks
17	52/F	Breast onco	Ca br	Chemo line	Line flush	6
18	76/m	Gen surg	Ca bowel	T p n line	Line flush	2 weeks
19	71/m	Gen surg	Ca oeso	Tpn line	Line flush	2
20	68/m	Vascular	Graft inf	Topical graft	2 weeks	
21	76/m	Vascular	Graft inf	Topical	1 week	1 week
22	46/f	Onco	Ca breast	Chemo l	3 weeks	3 weeks
23	31/m	Cardiothorasic	empyema	Pleural cavity	Cavity flush	2 weeks
24	66/m	Cardiothorasic	Empyema	Pleural cav	Cavity flush	3
25	72/f	Cardiothorasic	Valve inf	Abx line	Line flush	2 weeks
26	44/f	Gen surg	Ca bowel	Tpn line	Line flush	3 weeks
27	70/f	Cardiothorasic	Valve inf	Abx line	Line f	2 weeks
28	53/m	Vascular	Graft inf	Topical	Topical	1 week
29	49/f	Haematology	Aml	Chemo line	Line flush	10 weeks
30	42/m	Gen sury	Sepsis abdo	T p n line	Line flush	4 weeks
31	53/f	Haematology	Lymphoma	line inf	Line flush	2 weeks
32	84/m	Ca rectum	Chemo line	Line inf	3 weeks	3
33	71/f	Cardiology	Vale inf	Abx line	Line flush	4 weeks
34	58/m	Vascular	Gr inf	Topical graft	Topical	1 week
35	15/f	Haematology	Aml	Chemo line	Line flush	1 week
36	52/m	Gen surg	Ca rectum	Chemo line	Line flush	6 weeks
37	63/f	Haematology	Aml	Chemo line	Line flush	2 weeks
38	44/m	Vascular	Foot inf	Abx line	Line flush	1 week