

# This Month's IMJ

September 2017 Vol 110 Number 8

## IMJ Commentary

[Brain Injury in Term Infants: The 'Each Baby Counts' Programme](#)

*JFA Murphy, Editor*

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## Editorial

[Adenotonsillectomy for obstructive sleep apnoea in children with Down Syndrome - No magic bullet.](#)

*Al Shidani K, McNally P*

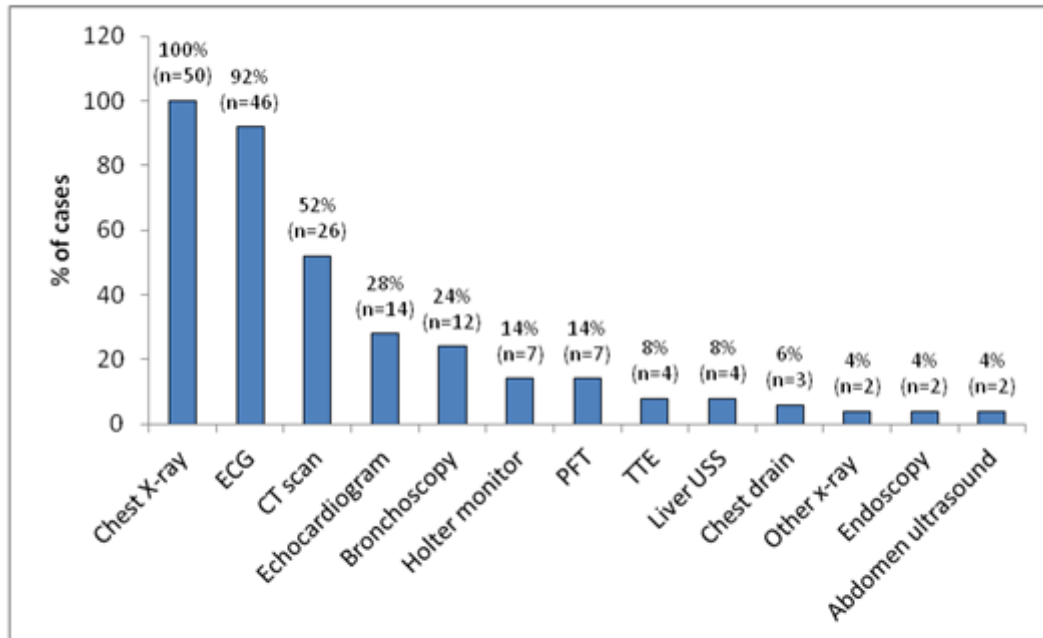
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## Original Papers

[Hospital resource utilisation by patients with community-acquired pneumonia.](#)

**:McCarthy et al have reviewed 50 hospital admissions of patients with community-acquired pneumonia (CAP). The estimated cost per patient was €14,802. More efficient use of resources can be achieved by discharge planning and fewer in-hospital ward transfers.**

**Figure 1. Most common investigations undertaken on patients admitted with community-acquired pneumonia.**



Computed tomography (CT)

Pulmonary function test (PFT)

Transthoracic echocardiogram (TTE)

Ultrasound scanning (USS).

## [Cancer Incidence and Mortality due to Excess Body Weight in Ireland: An analysis of 10-year data.](#)

**Collins et al using the population attributable fraction (PAF) have calculated that 4.5% of cancers in Ireland are due to excess body weight (EBW). This represents 800 new cancers and 300 cancer deaths. The greatest risk is the upper digestive tract and the endometrium.**

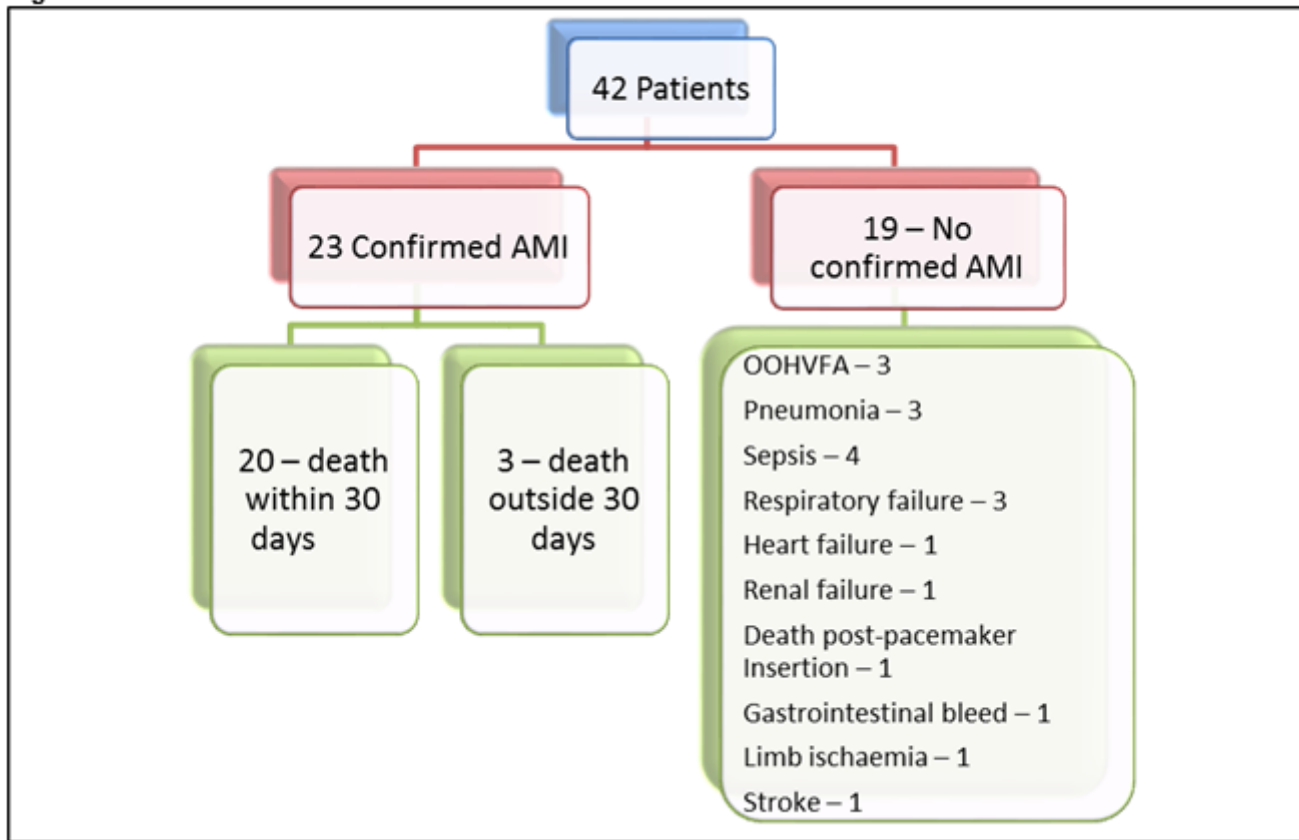
**Table 2: Number and percentage of incident cancers, 2003-2012 inc., attributable to excess body weight**

Cancer site	10 year cancer incidence Number	10 year attributable cancer incidence Number	10 year attributable cancer incidence % (upper and lower estimates)
<i>Males</i>			
Colorectal	13,056	2,129	16.3% (11.3%-21.3%)
Gallbladder	126	25	19.6% (11.8%-26.7%)
Oesophagus (adenocarcinoma)	1,395	485	34.8% (24.9%-44%)
Kidney	2,889	627	21.7% (17.9%-25.5%)
Hepatocellular	498	116	23.2% (15.7%-30.1%)
Cholangiocarcinoma	186	41	21.9% (10.4%-32.1%)
Gastric Cardia	1,081	259	23.9% (9.3%-36.9%)
<b>Total Male</b>	<b>19,231</b>	<b>3,682</b>	<b>19.1% (13.3%-24.4%)</b>
<i>Females</i>			
Breast (postmenopausal)	19,084	1,515	7.9% (4.1%-11.7%)
Colorectal	9,525	427	4.5% (0.64%-8.25%)
Ovarian	3,467	407	11.7% (8.5%-14.6%)
Endometrium	2,992	1,037	34.7% (26.4%-42.3%)
Gallbladder	350	61	17.3% (10.6-23.8%)
Oesophagus (adenocarcinoma)	381	121	31.6% (22.2%-40.2%)
Kidney	1,634	437	26.8% (23.1%-30.2%)
Hepatocellular	101	21	21.2% (14.5-27.7%)
Cholangiocarcinoma	179	34	19.0% (8.9%-28.5%)
Gastric Cardia	475	99	20.7% (7.9%-32.8%)
<b>Total Female</b>	<b>38,188</b>	<b>4,157</b>	<b>10.9% (6.5%-30.7%)</b>

## [A Retrospective Audit of In-Hospital 30-day Mortality from Acute Myocardial Infarction in Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown](#)

**Hensey et al undertook an audit of 42 patients who were HIPE coded as having died within 30 days from an acute myocardial infarction (AMI). Following the audit 23 patients (54.8%) were confirmed as having had an AMI. With this adjustment the 30-day post AMI death rate was 4.14 per 100 cases.**

Figure 2



### [Three year Experience of Non Melanoma Skin Cancer in a General Practice](#)

Maguire and Maguire report 58 patients with non-melanoma skin cancer. 82% of cases were treated in the surgery and 18% were referred because central facial site and larger site. The authors conclude that the majority of non-melanoma skin cancers can be managed safely without referral.

**Table 2 Site, size and type of cancers.**

Histology	n	Size (mean)(mm)	Size (range)(mm)	Site:		
				Head&Neck(n)	Torso(n)	Limb(n)
<b>All BCC</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>3.0-27.0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>
nodular	25	9.9	4.0-27			
superficial	7	10.0	5.0-15.0			
multifocal	2	5.0	3.0-7.0			
pigmented	1	10.0				
morphoeic	1	3.0				
basosquamous	1	7.0				
<b>All SCC</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>1.0-15.0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>
early invasive	6	7.0	2.0-15.0			
well differentiated	9	6.1	4.0-8.0			
moderately well differentiated	6	8.0	1.0-13.0			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>1.0-27.0</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>

[\*\*Investigating the perceived benefits, barriers and beliefs towards physical activity in pregnancy among women with gestational diabetes mellitus\*\*](#)

**Hurst et al surveyed 46 women with gestational diabetes. The women showed an awareness of the importance of diet in control of the condition. In relation to exercise, lack of time and fatigue were frequently quoted. The authors stress the importance of exercise, given that 40% of women with gestational diabetes may develop type-2 diabetes within 4**

Table 4. Behavioural beliefs to engaging in physical activity during pregnancy and post pregnancy

Exercise Belief Questionnaire (N=46)			% (n)*
<b>Physical activity during pregnancy</b>	Behavioural beliefs	Managing weight gain	45.64 (21)
		Manage diabetes/keep blood sugar down	36.96 (17)
		Keep fit	23.91 (11)
		Prepare body for labour	23.91 (11)
	Normative beliefs	Family	47.83 (22)
		Myself	28.26 (13)
		Baby	26.09 (12)
	Control beliefs	Pain/Discomfort	54.35 (25)
		Tiredness/Fatigue/No energy	39.13 (18)
	<b>Physical activity post pregnancy</b>	Behavioural beliefs	Losing baby weight
Getting back in shape/Improve fitness			32.61 (15)
Relaxation/Reduce stress			32.61 (15)
Normative beliefs		Family	50.00 (23)
		Baby/children	34.78 (16)
		Myself	23.91 (11)
Control beliefs		Lack of time	39.13 (18)
		Tiredness/Fatigue/No energy	23.91 (11)
		Pain/Discomfort	19.57 (9)

\*Results are presented as % of N=46

years

### [Hidradenitis Suppurativa and Crohn's Disease: A Case Series](#)

Kirthi et al report 7 cases with both hidradenitis suppurativa (HS) and Crohn's disease. HS consists of recurrent abscesses and draining sinuses with scarring.

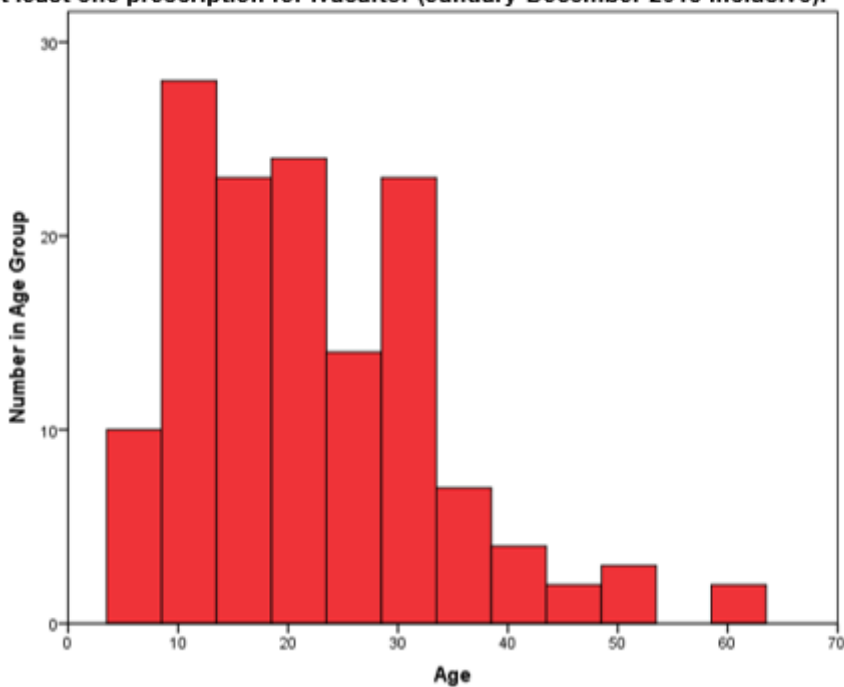
Figure1. Picture of axillary Hidradenitis Suppurativa in a patient with Crohn's Disease requiring Seton insertions



## [Ivacaftor for cystic fibrosis: An evaluation of real world utilisation and expenditure in the Irish Healthcare Setting](#)

Corcoran et al report that in a 12 month period 140 patients have been treated with Ivacaftor. The patient age range was 6 to 61 years. The cost was €29.81m.

Figure 1: Histogram to illustrate the age distribution of all individuals who received at least one prescription for ivacaftor (January-December 2015 inclusive).



## [Skin cancer awareness amongst Irish golfers](#)

**McCarthy et al surveyed 163 golfers about skin cancer. Sixteen previously had skin cancer, 8 melanomas and 8 non-melanomas. 85% were compliant with SPF. 59% were aware that melanoma can lead to death if left untreated.**



**Table 1: Demographics and results**

<b>Demographics</b>		
Gender	<i>Male</i>	137 (84)
	<i>Female</i>	26 (16)
Ethnicity	<i>Caucasian</i>	140 (86)
Hair colour	<i>Black</i>	28 (17)
	<i>Brown</i>	84 (52)
	<i>Fair</i>	44 (27)
	<i>Red</i>	6 (4)
Self-reported Skin Type	<i>Tans easily</i>	105 (65)
	<i>Tans with difficulty</i>	46 (28)
	<i>Never tans</i>	7 (4)
Previous skin cancer	<i>Skin freckling</i>	63 (39)
	16 (9.8)	<i>Melanoma 8</i> <i>Non-Melanoma 8</i>
Positive family history of skin cancer	15 (9.2)	
Working environment	<i>Indoor</i>	73 (45)
	<i>Mixed</i>	66 (40)
	<i>Outdoor</i>	15 (9)
Golfing	<i>&gt; weekly</i>	94 (58)
	<i>Weekly</i>	63 (39)
	<i>&gt;monthly</i>	6 (4)
	<i>&lt; monthly</i>	0
Hx of bad sunburn	<i>Three or more occasions</i>	59 (36)
	<i>Once or twice</i>	78 (48)
	<i>Never</i>	26 (16)
	<i>Never</i>	0
>5 sun holidays in past 5 years	<i>Yes</i>	84 (52)
Presence of moles	<i>No moles</i>	79 (48)
	<i>&lt;20</i>	71 (44)
	<i>&gt;20</i>	7 (4)
Mole with irregular colour or edge	<i>Yes</i>	19 (12)
	<i>Attended GP with mole?</i>	8
<b>Skin Surveillance</b>		
Do you check your skin?	<i>Yes</i>	111 (68)
	<i>&gt;Monthly</i>	21 (13)
	<i>Monthly</i>	32 (20)
	<i>Once or twice a year</i>	55 (34)
Would you attend your GP with a skin lesion in next 6 months?	<i>Likely or V likely</i>	24 (15)
	<i>Unlikely or V Unlikely</i>	139 (85)
What would you do if you noticed a new mole?	<i>Go to GP</i>	101 (60)
	<i>Ask a friend/partner</i>	46 (28)
	<i>Ignore it</i>	9 (6)
<b>Sun protection measures</b>		
SPF when golfing	<i>Yes</i>	139 (85)
	<i>30+</i>	66 (47)
	<i>15-30</i>	56 (40)
	<i>&lt;15</i>	17 (12)
Hat	<i>Yes</i>	122 (74)
	<i>Baseball hat</i>	86 (71)
	<i>Floppy hat</i>	14 (11)
	<i>Visor</i>	3 (2)
Do you try to get a suntan?	<i>Yes</i>	94 (58)

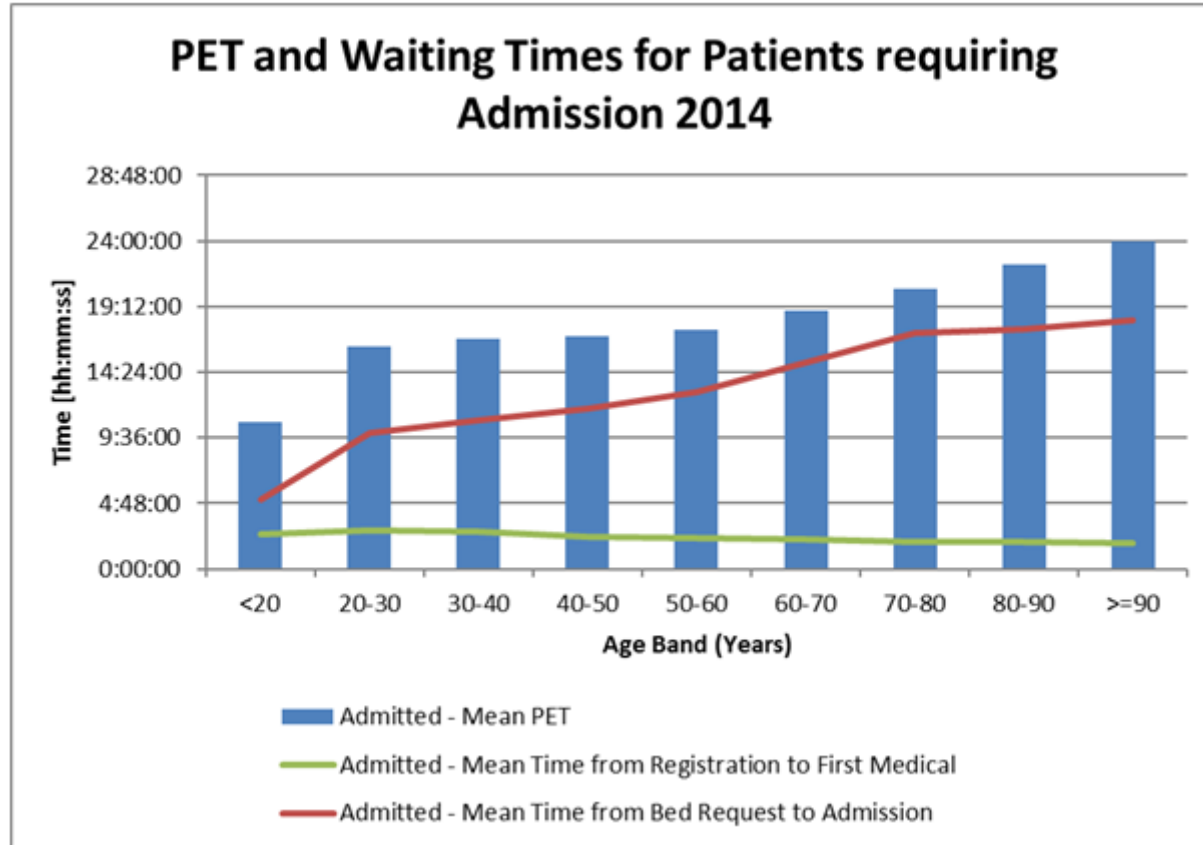
## [Growing old in the Emergency Department](#)

**P Liston, G Conyngham, M Brady, PJ Byrne and P Gilligan**

**Liston et al examine the relationship between age and the total time spent in the ED**

department. The findings demonstrate that the ED is busy all year round. Planning is needed for the current and future healthcare of older patients.

Figure 2: Mean Patient Experience Time per Age Band for Admitted Patients



## Case Reports

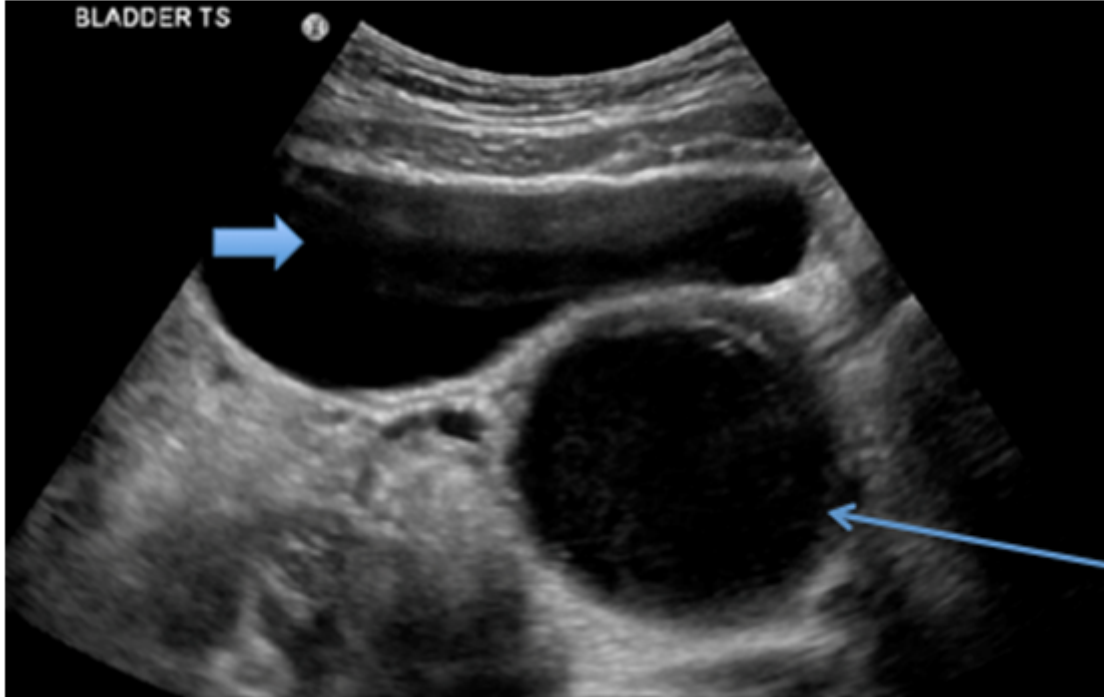
[Idiopathic Atypical Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome presenting with acute dystonia.](#)

Rizwan, KE Maduemem

[Atresia hymenalis with haematometrocolpos: A benefit of teaching a case series and review of the literature](#)

Whitla et al present 4 cases of atresia hymenalis. Acute urinary retention appears to be the commonest presenting feature. Back pain is also common.

Image 1: Abdominal ultrasound from Case 1. Transverse image, demonstrates distended vaginal cavity as midline cystic structure (long narrow arrow) with the bladder anteriorly (short wide arrow).



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## **Short Report**

### **[Antimicrobial-resistant faecal organisms in algae products marketed as health supplements](#)**

**Ryan et al draw attention to the blue-green algae which are commonly used as dietary supplements. In a study of 3 products, Chlorella, Spirulina and Super Greens all cultured enteric flora. Clinicians should be aware of this risk for vulnerable patients.**

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**Table 1. Genus/species identified from 8 samples of algae based food supplements.**

Genus/species	Number of isolates detected per sample							
	Chlorella					Spirulina		Supergreens
	A	B	C	D	E	A	B	A
<i>Citrobacter sedlakii</i>	1	ND*	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
<i>Cronobacter sakazakii</i>	1	1	ND	ND	ND	ND	1	1
<i>Clostridium</i> spp.	2	1	2	ND	2	3	2	1
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp.	1 <sup>1</sup>	1	2	2	2	1	1	2 <sup>2</sup>
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	ND	1	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
<i>Enterococcus faecium</i>	ND	1	1	1	1	1	ND	1
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	ND	ND	2	1	ND	ND	ND	1 <sup>3</sup>
Miscellaneous	ND	ND	ND	1	ND	2	2	1

\*ND= not detected

<sup>1</sup>This *E. cloacae* isolate was ertapenem resistant but not a carbapenemase producing *Enterobacteriaceae*.

<sup>2</sup>*Enterobacter cloacae* and *Enterobacter kobei*. The latter had a meropenem MIC of 1.5mg/L and carried blaOXA51 carbapenemase.

<sup>3</sup>One of 2 *K. pneumoniae* detected in this sample was an extended-spectrum beta-lactamase producer carrying blaCTX-M9 group enzyme.

## [Letters to the Editor](#)

### [Cold Case Files: 15 years on, did patient controlled analgesia mask acute compartment syndrome?](#)

**S Mannion, P Lee, CTaylor.**