

Gram positive cocci: Likely streptococci

Some streptococcal species are **major pathogens or causes of endocarditis**. See appendix 1 for further information.

Assessment
NEWS2 score $\geq 7 \rightarrow$ request senior clinical review

1. **Central venous catheters or long-term vascular access devices present?**
2. Risk factors for OR signs & symptoms of **infective endocarditis**?
3. Signs & symptoms of **pneumococcal pneumonia / meningitis**?
4. Signs & symptoms of **skin and soft tissue infection**?
5. **Known Vancomycin-resistant enterococci (VRE)?**

Clinical evidence of infection or sepsis

Vascular access device: take blood cultures prior to administering new antibiotics (peripheral first, then from line). Avoid using line and consider removal.

Possible infective endocarditis: take 2 further sets of blood cultures, 20 minutes apart, ideally from different sites.

Give a stat dose of IV vancomycin, dosed as per vancomycin calculator.

If **invasive Group A strep (iGAS)** infection is suspected or the patient is a **carrier of VRE** contact the Consultant Microbiologist for further advice.

No clinical evidence of infection

Risk: vascular access device

Consider possible line infection

Repeat blood cultures, first from periphery then from line.

Signs and symptoms of endocarditis present

Take 2 further sets of blood cultures, 20 minutes apart, and ideally from different sites.

Seek senior medical review and request echocardiogram

No risk factors present

Possible contaminant - hold off any changes in current treatment.

If the patient develops sepsis before further information on this result is available, reassess for a source of infection, reculture, and treat according to empirical prescribing guidelines.

Document result, clinical review, and plan in notes.

Significant isolates are followed up by a consultant microbiologist who will advise on further investigations and duration of treatment. Contaminated blood cultures will be reported within 24hrs with an explanatory report comment.