Osteomyelitis is classified as hematogenous when the bacteria initiates infection through the bloodstream and contiguous when it is instigated by direct inoculation through traumatic wounds or surgery. Modern development and change in lifestyle have seen a dramatic reduction in hematogenous causes and are currently superseded by trauma such as road traffic accidents.\(^1\)

Hematogenous osteomyelitis causes acute sepsis and responds well to antibiotics as there are no associated injuries and the organism is predictably *Staphylococcus aureus* in most cases. Alternately, the patient’s with trauma-induced osteomyelitis are usually less septic, require multiple surgeries and the causative organisms are difficult to predict as it is predominantly a nosocomial infection. The patients are invariably already prescribed antibiotics.

The rapid development in the field of musculoskeletal infection has led to a multidisciplinary team approach consisting of an orthopaedic surgeon, plastic surgeon, Infectious disease physician, radiologist and microbiologist to work together to achieve the best outcome for the patients. This approach is similar to that practised in musculoskeletal oncology.

REFERENCES


Prof. Dr. Nazri Mohd Yusof
Department of Orthopaedics, Traumatology & Rehabilitation, Kulliyyah of Medicine, International Islamic University Malaysia.