

Table 1. Baseline characteristics of patients with normal ( $\leq 10\%$ ), moderately elevated (11–19%), and high ( $\geq 20\%$ ) band counts.

	<b>Normal Bands (n=407)</b>	<b>Moderate Bands (n=199)</b>	<b>High Bands (n =166)</b>
Age (years), mean $\pm$ SD	60.1 $\pm$ 18.5	62.9 $\pm$ 17.7	63.6 $\pm$ 19.5*
Male, %	51.6	48.7	57.2
White blood cell (cells/mm <sup>3</sup> ), mean $\pm$ SD	7.6 $\pm$ 1.8	7.2 $\pm$ 1.9	7.6 $\pm$ 1.9
Automated neutrophil count (%), mean $\pm$ SD	72.9 $\pm$ 12.4	79.9 $\pm$ 12.2 <sup>§</sup>	82.4 $\pm$ 9.9 <sup>§</sup>
Band count (%), mean $\pm$ SD	2.5 $\pm$ 2.1	11.7 $\pm$ 4.4	26.3 $\pm$ 13
Admission temperature ( $^{\circ}$ C), mean $\pm$ SD	36.9 $\pm$ 0.8	37.1 $\pm$ 1.4*	37.1 $\pm$ 1.2*
Admission heart rate, mean $\pm$ SD	90 $\pm$ 21	104 $\pm$ 22 <sup>§</sup>	105 $\pm$ 22 <sup>§</sup>
Admission systolic blood pressure, mean $\pm$ SD	127 $\pm$ 28	125 $\pm$ 28	117 $\pm$ 29 <sup>§</sup>
Admission diastolic blood pressure, mean $\pm$ SD	69 $\pm$ 17	68 $\pm$ 19	64 $\pm$ 20 <sup>†</sup>
Admission respiratory rate, mean $\pm$ SD	20 $\pm$ 4	21 $\pm$ 5	23 $\pm$ 9 <sup>§</sup>

\*p < 0.05 for comparison with normal band group

<sup>†</sup> p < 0.01 for comparison with normal band group

<sup>§</sup> p < 0.001 for comparison with normal band group

Table 2. Clinical results and discharge disposition for patients with normal ( $\leq 10\%$ ), moderately elevated (11–19%), and high ( $\geq 20\%$ ) band counts.

	<b>Normal Bands</b>	<b>Moderate Bands</b>	<b>High Bands</b>
	<b>(n=407)</b>	<b>(n=199)</b>	<b>(n =166)</b>
	<b>n(%)</b>	<b>n(%)</b>	<b>n(%)</b>
Cultures obtained within 24 hours	232 (57.0)	168 (84.4)	144 (86.8)
Antibiotics initiated within 24 hours	123 (30.2)	103 (51.8)	114 (68.7)
Antibiotics initiated within 72 hours	144 (35.4)	115 (57.8)	124 (74.7)
Any significant positive culture	71 (17.4)	71 (35.7)	72 (43.4)
Positive blood culture	16 (3.9)	36 (18.1)	43 (25.9)
Positive urine culture	37 (9.1)	30 (15.1)	29 (17.5)
Positive sputum culture	7 (1.7)	12 (6.0)	8 (4.8)
Positive wound/skin culture	15 (3.7)	1 (0.5)	5 (3.0)
Positive <i>C. difficile</i> assay	2 (0.5)	4 (2.0)	7 (4.2)
Primary infectious disease diagnosis	125 (30.7)	103 (51.8)	88 (53.0)
Discharge disposition			
Discharged home	300 (73.4)	135 (67.8)	73 (44.0)
Discharged to sub-acute health care facility	68 (16.7)	24 (12.1)	43 (25.9)
Discharged to inpatient or home hospice	12 (3.0)	6 (3.0)	7 (4.2)
Died in-hospital	19 (4.7)	28 (14.1)	37 (22.3)

Table 3. Association of moderate and high band counts, compared to normal bands, with positive culture results, *C. difficile* infection and in-hospital mortality as separate dependent outcomes, using univariate and multivariable logistic regression.\*

	<b>OR</b> <b>(95% CI)</b>	<b>Adjusted OR<sup>†</sup></b> <b>(95% CI)</b>
<b>Any significant positive culture</b>		
Moderate bands	2.6 (1.8 – 3.9)	2.0 (1.3 – 3.1)
High bands	3.6 (2.4 – 5.4)	2.8 (1.7 – 4.3)
<b>Positive blood culture</b>		
Moderate bands	5.4 (2.9 – 10.0)	3.8 (2.0 – 7.2)
High bands	8.5 (4.6 – 15.7)	6.2 (3.2 – 11.8)
<b><i>C. difficile</i> infection</b>		
Moderate bands	4.2 (0.8 – 22.9)	4.0 (0.7 – 23.9)
High bands	8.9 (1.8 – 43.4)	8.1 (1.5 – 43.6)
<b>In-hospital death</b>		
Moderate bands	3.3 (1.8 – 6.2)	3.2 (1.7 – 6.1)
High bands	5.9 (3.3 – 10.5)	4.7 (2.4 – 9.0)

\* Referent group for all analyses are subjects with normal band counts.

<sup>†</sup> All analyses adjusted for age, total white blood cell count, admission temperature, heart rate, systolic and diastolic blood pressure, and respiratory rate.

Table 4. Any significant culture and blood culture results by band class.

	<b>Normal Bands</b>	<b>Moderate Bands</b>	<b>High Bands</b>
	<b>(n=407)</b>	<b>(n=199)</b>	<b>(n =166)</b>
	<b>n (%)</b>	<b>n (%)</b>	<b>n (%)</b>
<i>Coagulase-negative Staphylococci</i>			
Any culture	4 (1.0)	2 (1.0)	5 (3.0)
Blood culture	3 (0.7)	2 (1.0)	5 (3.0)
<i>Methicillin-resistant S. aureus</i>			
Any culture	4 (1.0)	1 (0.5)	1 (0.6)
Blood culture	1 (0.3)	0 (0.0)	1 (0.6)
<i>Methicillin-sensitive S. aureus</i>			
Any culture	2 (0.5)	4 (2.0)	2 (1.2)
Blood culture	1 (0.3)	4 (2.0)	1 (0.6)
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>			
Any culture	0 (0.0)	4 (2.0)	7 (4.2)
Blood culture	0 (0.0)	4 (2.0)	7 (4.2)
Other Gram-positive			
Any culture	12 (3.0)	10 (5.0)	13 (7.8)
Blood culture	3 (0.7)	6 (3.0)	6 (3.6)
Any Gram-negative bacilli			
Any culture	18 (4.4)	25 (12.6)	26 (15.7)
Blood culture	7 (1.7)	19 (9.5)	23 (13.9)
Any fungal	2 (0.5)	1 (0.5)	2 (1.2)

Polymicrobial cultures*	6 (1.5)	6 (3.0)	11 (6.6)
All cultures negative	154 (78.6)	105 (65.6)	86 (61.0)

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\* Includes patients with the specific organisms listed above (not mutually exclusive).