

EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY OF FIDAXOMICIN AS FIRST-LINE THERAPY FOR CLOSTRIDIODES DIFFICILE INFECTION

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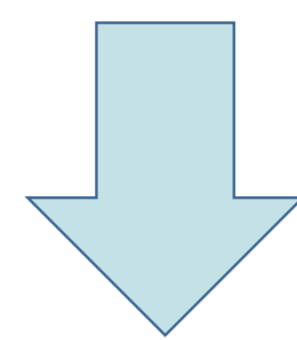
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BACKGROUND AND IMPORTANCE

Clostridioides difficile infection is a significant cause of nosocomial diarrhoea, associated with high morbidity and mortality and frequent recurrences.



Fidaxomicin, a narrow-spectrum macrocyclic antibiotic, has demonstrated efficacy comparable to vancomycin with lower recurrence rates, and is recommended as first-line treatment for patients at high risk of recurrence.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the effectiveness and safety of fidaxomicin as first-line treatment for *Clostridioides difficile* infection in real-world clinical practice.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

★ Study design:

Retrospective descriptive study of patients treated with fidaxomicin as first-line therapy.

★ Primary variables collected:

High risk of recurrence, antibiotic use within 3 months prior to diagnosis, concomitant proton pump inhibitor (PPI) therapy, clinical cure, recurrence or reinfection, and clinical complications.

★ Safety assessment:

Adverse events and treatment discontinuations.

★ Effectiveness endpoints:

Clinical cure (symptom-free at 48 h post-treatment), recurrence (<8 weeks), and reinfection (>8 weeks).

RESULTS

PATIENTS

A total of **61 patients** were included (mean age 62 ± 20 years; 59% male)

CLINICAL VARIABLES

<u>RISK FACTORS FOR RECURRENCE</u>	<u>N(%)</u>
Immunocompromised	39 (64)
Age >65 years with severe disease	27(44)
Antibiotic use ≤3 months before diagnosis	46 (75)
→ High-risk antibiotics*	28(61)*
Proton pump inhibitor (PPI) use at diagnosis	49 (80)
→ PPI discontinued*	32(65)*

<u>THERAPY AT DIAGNOSIS</u>	<u>N (%)</u>
Active antibiotic therapy	34 (56)
→ <i>Discontinued*</i>	19 (56)*
Proton pump inhibitors (PPIs)	49 (80)
→ <i>Discontinued*</i>	32 (65)*

EFFICACY

Clinical resolution was achieved in **87%** (53/61), with **recurrence** in **5%** (3/61) and **no reinfections** reported.

SAFETY

No fidaxomicin-related adverse events were reported. CDI-related clinical complications occurred in 20% (12/61), including pseudomembranous colitis (18%, 11/61) and paralytic ileus (1%, 1/61).

CONCLUSION AND RELEVANCE

First-line fidaxomicin showed high effectiveness, low recurrence rates and an excellent safety profile in real-world clinical practice, supporting its preferential use in high-risk patients.

