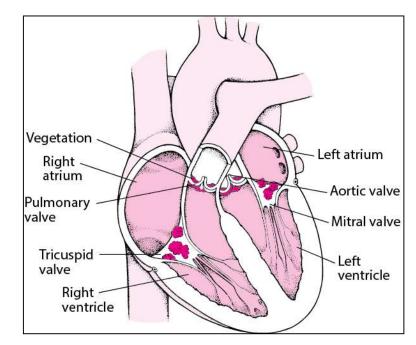


By Professor Dina Abou Rayia

- **Definition:** Microbial infection of the inner surface of the heart (endocardium) which is also called the endothelial surface
- It includes:
 - Valves
 - Chordae tendineae
 - Septa of the heart
 - Mural endothelium
- NVE: native valve endocarditis
- PVE: prosthetic valve endocarditis



Risk factors

- Valvular heart disease that includes:
- Rheumatic heart disease
- Congenital heart disease
- Artificial valve
- Electronic pacemaker
- Haemodialysis
- Intravenous drug use: e.g addicts
- Immune suppression

Commonly involved bacteria: Streptococci and Staphylococci

Incidence: 2-5 / 100,000 patient-years,

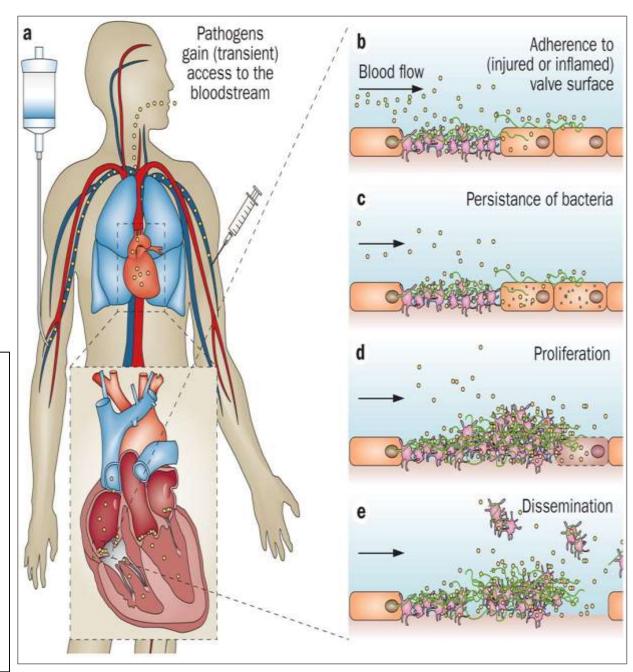
15-30 / 100,000 patient-years (>60 y/o)

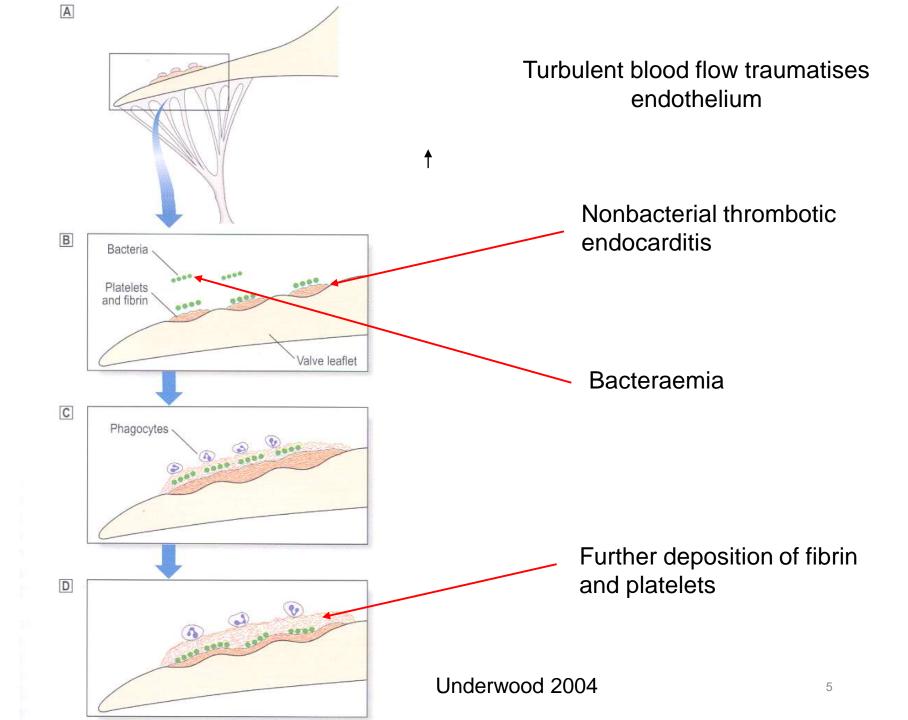
Pathogenesis

Growth of vegetation by platelet-fibrin deposition yields a sanctuary for bacteria.

The vegetation

- Variable in size
- Amorphous mass of fibrin & platelets
- Abundant organisms
- Few inflammatory cells



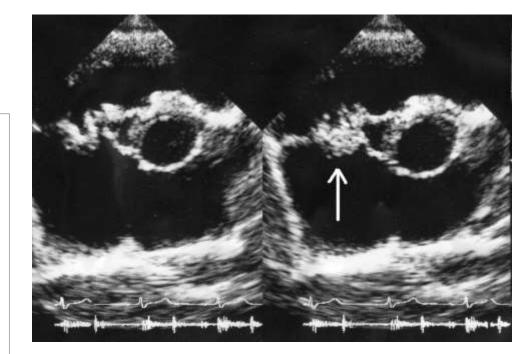


Occurs on

- Defective valves
- Prosthetic valves
- Normal valves
- Congenital heart defects e.g.
 - Ventricular septal defect
 - Patent ductus arteriosus

• 40% with IE have

- Normal heart
- Undiagnosed defect



Classification of infective endocarditis

Classification based on the duration of symptoms:

- Acute: up to 6 weeks
- Subacute: > 6 weeks and < 3 months
- Chronic: > 3 months
- Classification according to the incubation period:
 - Endocarditis with short incubation: < 6 weeks
 - Endocarditis with long incubation: : > 6 weeks
- Classification based on the heart side affected:
 - Left-sided endocarditis (more common)
 - Right-sided endocarditis (5-10% of cases)

• Acute

- Toxic presentation
- Presentation developing in
 - days to weeks
- Progressive valve

destruction & metastatic

infection

Most commonly caused by

Staph. aureus

Subacute

- Mild toxicity
- Presentation over weeks to months
- Rarely leads to metastatic

infection

 Most commonly caused by viridans streptococci and to a

lesser extent by enterococcus

- Intravenous Drug Abuse
 - Risk is 2 5% per pt./year
 - Tendency to involve right-sided valves
 - Distribution in clinical series
 - 46 78% tricuspid
 - 24 32% mitral
 - 8 19% aortic
 - Staph. aureus predominant organism

• Prosthetic Valve Endocarditis (PVE)

- 10 30% of all cases in developed nations
- Early PVE within 60 days
 - Nosocomial (Staph. epidermidis predominates)
- Late PVE after 60 days
 - Community (same organisms as NVE)

Nosocomial

- Infected intracardiac device and catheter
- GI or GU tract surgery or instrumentation
- High mortality (40-56%)
- (Staph. aureus and Enterococcus)
- *S. aureus* catheter related bacteremia (23%)

- •Viridans streptococci:
 - 35 65% NVE
 - Normal inhabitants of the oropharynx, GIT and female genital tract
 - Gram-positive cocci arranged in chains are typically alpha haemolytic but some strains are non-haemolytic on blood agar
 - Penicillin-sensitive



•Streptococcus pneumoniae:

- Alcoholism
- Aortic valve
- Concurrent pneumonia or meningitis

•Enterococcus:

- Normal GI tract flora and cause GU infection
- 5—15% NVE and PVE

•Staphylococcus:

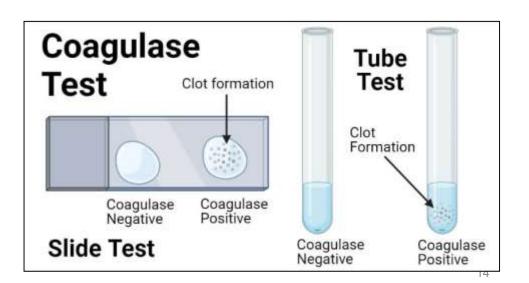
Coagulase-positive: S. aureus

Highly toxic febrile

30-50% CNS involvement

Coagulase-negative: S epidermidis

Major cause of PVE



•Gram negative organisms

- Pseudomonas aeruginosa most common
- HACEK slow growing, fastidious organisms that may need 3 weeks to grow out of culture
 - Haemophilus sp.
 - Actinobacillus
 - Cardiobacterium
 - Eikenella
 - Kingella

Clinical picture

 Malaise, fever, night sweats, weight loss, anaemia, Chills, Anorexia, Arthralgia

• Valve destruction \rightarrow heart failure

 \rightarrow new/changing murmurs

- Embolic events \rightarrow abscesses in brain, liver
- Immune complex deposition \rightarrow vasculitis

 \rightarrow arthralgia

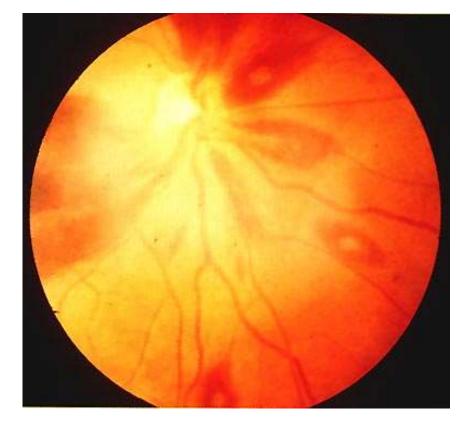
 \rightarrow glomerulonephritis

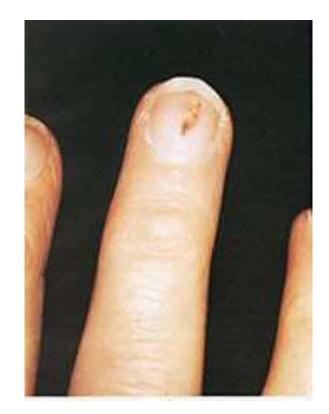
- Petechial Hemorrhages
- Linear (splinter) Hemorrhages
- Retinal Hemorrhages
- Osler Nodes
- Janeway Lesions
- Splenomegaly



Bleeding

- Subungual (splinter) hemorrhage
- Conjunctival hemorrhage
- Retinal hemorrhage: Roth Spot







Peripheral Manifestations

• Janeway Lesions:

• Erythematous, macular,

painless haemorrhagic

lesions in palm and sole.

• Septic emboli?





• Osler's Nodes:

- Tender, subcutaneous nodules.
- 4 P's:

Pink

Painful

Pea-sized

Fingers and toes.

- Immunologic origin?

<image>

Outcome • Fatal 10-70% of cases

Lab Investigations

- Normochromic normocytic anaemia
- WCC white cell count
- ESR erythrocyte sedimentation rate
- Blood cultures repeated samples, 3/24h
- Histopathology from the affected valves
- Echocardiography
- Diagnosis
- Von Reyn Criteria without using Echocardiography
- Duke Criteria

