Branhamella Catarrhalis Peritonitis in CAPD

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Dear Sir,

Damani et al. [1] report one case of peritonitis due to *Branhamella catarrhalis* in CAPD and think that haema-togenous spread from oropharynx must be an important source of diffusion. We previously published 3 cases of peritonitis caused by *Neisseriae* species in CAPD, in patients with linear set [2]. It was supposed that contamination with droplets from the oropharynx material might occur during the exchanges, despite good patient training. Since 1983 we have been using the y-set [3] for new patients and switched the other patients from linear to y-set on occasion of the first episode of peritonitis. From January 1980 to December 1987 we observed 64 episodes of peritonitis in 458 patient-months in linear set and 33 episodes in 560 patient-months in y-set. *Neisseriae* species were never identified as the cause of peritonitis in patients treated with the y-set. In conclusion, our experience suggests that the predominant route of diffusion for

Neisseriae species causing peritonitis must be exogenous and that the y-system is a good measure to prevent this rare cause of contamination.

References

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