

Clinical experience with daptomycin: bacteraemia and endocarditis.

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Serious infections due to *Staphylococcus aureus*, especially those due to methicillin-resistant *S. aureus*, have become a major challenge. Vancomycin has long been the drug of choice for treatment of such infections, but failures due to its slow bactericidal activity coupled with increasing MICs have necessitated a search for new, more effective agents. Daptomycin has been studied by a number of investigators and has proved to be effective for bacteraemic infections due to staphylococci as well as vancomycin-resistant enterococci and other Gram-positive organisms. In addition, in a randomized controlled trial comparing daptomycin monotherapy with potentially synergistic therapy with either vancomycin or beta-lactam, both used in combination with an aminoglycoside, daptomycin achieved comparable outcomes but with significantly less nephrotoxicity.

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