Appendix

Survey: evaluation of the aseptic technique used in interventional rheumatology by Moroccan and Tunisian rheumatologists

The objective of our study was to evaluate the aseptic technique used in interventional rheumatology by Moroccan and Tunisian rheumatologists.

The answers will be treated anonymously.

We would like to thank you for your collaboration.

1- Origin country:
   - Morocco
   - Tunisia

2- Position:
   - Resident
   - Consultant rheumatologist
   - Professor

3- Sector:
   - Private
   - Public

4- Duration of rheumatology practice:
   - Less than 5 years
   - Between 5 and 10 years
   - Between 10 and 20 years
   - Over 20 years
5- Which interventional rheumatologic procedure do you perform?
   o Superficial joints
   o Profound joints
   o Periarticular
   o Epidural

6- Which method do you use for interventional rheumatologic procedure?
   o Landmark-based injection
   o Ultrasonography
   o Fluoroscopy

7- On average, how many interventional procedures do you perform per week?
   o Short answer…

8- Which disinfectant do you use?
   o Povidone iodine
   o Alcohol
   o Alcoholic povidone
   o Chlorhexidine
   o Other… (short answer)

9- How many disinfectants do you use?
   o 1
   o 2
   o Other… (short answer)

10- Do you wait for the disinfectant to dry?
    o Yes
    o No
11- Do you use?

- A mask
  - Yes
  - No
- Sterile towels
  - Yes
  - No
- No gloves (hand washing only)
  - Yes
  - No
- Non-sterile gloves
  - Yes
  - No
- Sterile gloves
  - Yes
  - No
- Sterile swabs
  - Yes
  - No

12- If you use ultrasonography to guide interventional procedures, do you take the following precautions?

- Clean ultrasound probe and wire with disinfectant
  - Yes
  - No
- Use protection probe
  - Yes
o No
➢ Use sterile gel
o Yes
o No
➢ Keep the distance of 1 cm between the probe and the needle
o Yes
o No

13- Do you perform interventional procedures in:
 o Exam room
 o Room dedicated to interventional procedures

14- Do you have a history of iatrogenic septic arthritis during your practice?
 o Yes
 o No

15- If you answered “yes” to question 14, can you specify the site affected?
 o Short answer…

16- If you answered “yes” to question 14, was the culture of synovial fluid positive?
 o Yes
 o No

17- Are you satisfied with your aseptic technique?
 o Yes
 o No

18- In your opinion, which are the essential precautions to take for a rigorous asepsis?
 o Short answer…