Epidemiological Changes and Improvement in Outcomes of Infective Endocarditis in Europe in the 21st Century

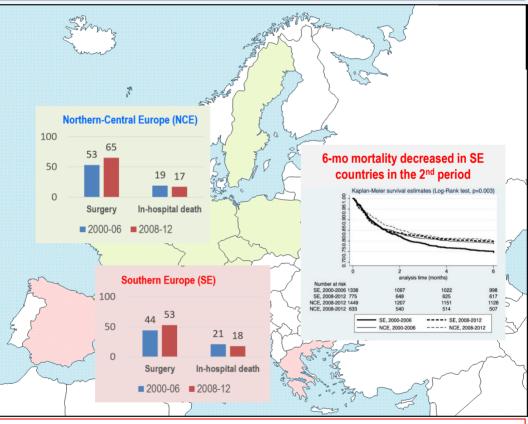
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PEER-REVIEWED FEATURE

Hypothesis: The epidemiology and outcomes of infective endocarditis (IE) in Europe could have experienced substantial variations according to predefined regions [Southern (SE) and Northern and Central Europe (NCE)] and throughout the first 12 years of this Century.

Objectives: The study aimed to compare IE epidemiological features and outcomes according to predefined European regions (NCE vs. SE) and between two different time periods (2000-06 vs. 2008-12) in this Century.



Main conclusions:

• The complexity of IE cases has increased in Europe between 2000 and 2012 with a rise in the proportion of patients who benefit from surgical treatment.

• Although the percentage of in-hospital and 6-month mortality decreased modestly, this may represent a significant improvement in the overall management and prognosis of IE in Europe.

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