

Appendix 1. Characteristics of patients with CDI who tested positive or negative for *C. difficile* toxin A/B EIA (VIDAS)

Variables	GDH+CDAB+	GDH+CDAB-	P-value
Total number	90	151	
Demographic data			
Female sex (%)	41(45.6)	58(38.4)	0.275
Age (SD)	58.96(17.783)	55.06(20.4)	0.134
Clinical characteristics			
Heart disease [n (%)]	37(41.1)	41(27.2)	0.029
Chronic pulmonary disease [n (%)]	3(3.3)	7(4.6)	0.748*
End-stage renal disease [n (%)]	7(7.8)	15(9.9)	0.574
Chronic hepatic disease [n (%)]	6(6.7)	10(6.6)	0.989
Diabetes mellitus [n (%)]	15(16.7)	22(14.6)	0.662
Cancer [n (%)]	9(10.0)	22(14.6)	0.305
Hematologic Tumors [n (%)]	17(18.9)	25(16.6)	0.644
Post-hematopoietic stem cell transplantation [n (%)]	12(13.3)	15(9.9)	0.418
Chemotherapy [n (%)]	13(14.4)	21(13.9)	0.908
Abdominal Surgery [n (%)]	6(6.7)	3(2.0)	0.082*
Enteral nutrition [n (%)]	23(25.6)	27(17.9)	0.155
Immunosuppressants [n (%)]	22(24.4)	36(23.8)	0.916
PPI therapy [n (%)]	40(44.4)	75(49.7)	0.432
No.% of patients under ICU treatment	6(6.7)	13(8.6)	0.588
Severe CDI by IDSA/SHEA criteria ^a	16(17.8)	24(15.9)	0.704
Bowel obstruction [n (%)]	2(2.2)	7(4.6)	0.490*
Pseudomembranous enteritis [n (%)]	3(3.3)	2(1.3)	0.365*
Empirical treatment	9(10.0)	15(9.9)	0.987
All caused mortality	9(10.0)	10(6.6)	0.922
Analytical parameters (at diagnosis)			
WBC count ($\times 10^9/L$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	6.7(4.2,9.4)	6.1(4.3,9.2)	0.873
No.% of WBCC $>15 \times 10^9/L$ (%)	5(5.6)	10(6.6)	0.740
RBC count ($\times 10^{12}/L$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	3.29(2.7,3.9)	3.24(2.6,3.9)	0.559
PLT count($\times 10^9/L$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	147(66,240.5)	171(82.5,285.7)	0.124
ALT count(U/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	18(11,29)	19(11,40)	0.760
AST count(U/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	19(14,30)	21(14.75,36.25)	0.334
CR count ($\mu\text{mol/L}$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	63(51,78)	70(52,97.75)	0.058

UN count (mol/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	4.9(3.85,7.7)	5.29(3.65,8.75)	0.479
CRP count (mg/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	22.88(8.24,44.85)	13.09(3.6,48.7)	0.189
PCT count (ng/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	0.16(0.09,0.52)	0.21(0.07,0.67)	0.848

*: Fisher's exact test;

a: leukocyte count of >15,000 cells/mL or serum creatinine of >1.5 mg/dL;

b: Interquartile range

Abbreviations: SD, standard deviation; WBC, white blood cell; RBC, red blood cell; PLT, platelets; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; CR, creatinine; UN, urea nitrogen; CRP, C-reactive protein; PCT, procalcitonin.

Appendix 2. Characteristics of patients with CDI who tested positive or negative for *C. difficile* toxin A/B EIA (*C. DIFF QUIK CHEK COMPLETE* test)

Variables	GDH*+ toxin+	GDH*+ toxin-	p value
Total number	56	102	
Demographic data			
Female sex (%)	27(48.2)	43(42.2)	0.463
Age (SD)	56.71(20.112)	55.85(20.069)	0.797
Clinical characteristics			
Heart disease [n (%)]	14(25.0)	25(24.5)	0.946
Chronic pulmonary disease [n (%)]	3(5.4)	13(12.7)	0.141*
End-stage renal disease [n (%)]	2(3.6)	10(9.8)	0.157*
Chronic hepatic disease [n (%)]	3(5.4)	5(4.9)	0.901*
Diabetes mellitus [n (%)]	6(10.7)	10(9.8)	0.856
Cancer [n (%)]	6(10.7)	11(10.8)	0.989
Hematologic Tumors [n (%)]	5(8.9)	8(7.8)	0.812
Post-hematopoietic stem cell transplantation [n (%)]	4(7.1)	5(4.9)	0.722*
Chemotherapy [n (%)]	5(8.9)	10(9.8)	0.858
Abdominal Surgery [n (%)]	4(7.1)	7(6.9)	0.947*
Enteral nutrition [n (%)]	15(26.8)	29(28.4)	0.825
Immunosuppressants [n (%)]	4(7.1)	18(17.6)	0.092*
PPI therapy [n (%)]	26(46.4)	40(39.2)	0.379
No.% of under ICU treatment	9(16)	14(13.7)	0.689
Severe CDI by IDSA/SHEA criteria ^a	25(26.8)	18(7.6)	0.176
Bowel obstruction [n (%)]	1(1.8)	2(2.0)	0.713*
Pseudomembranous enteritis [n (%)]	2(3.6)	1(1.0)	0.281*
Empirical treatment	2(3.6)	11(10.7)	0.140*
All caused mortality	3(5.4)	9(8.8)	0.541*
Analytical parameters (at diagnosis)			
WBC count ($\times 10^9/L$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	6.54(4.1,9.2)	6.94(4.6,9.3)	0.739
No. of WBCC $>15 \times 10^9/L$ (%)	6(10.7)	6(5.9)	0.273
RBC count ($\times 10^{12}/L$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	3.0(2.3,4.0)	3.3(2.4,4.0)	0.651
PLT count($\times 10^9/L$) Median (median [IQR ^b])	197(110,306)	174(90,264)	0.558

ALT count (U/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	14(11,31)	20(13,39)	0.132
AST count(U/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	19(15,29)	23(15,36)	0.254
CR count (μmol/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	61.5(49.3,82.5)	67(54,92)	0.349
UN count(mol/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	5.07(3.6,7.5)	5.04(3.5,9.6)	0.641
CRP count(mg/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	31.10(4.2,57.8)	17.6(3.7,61.9)	0.476
PCT count (ng/L) Median (median [IQR ^b])	0.395(0.08,1.06)	0.26(0.09,0.88)	0.558

*: Fisher's exact test

a: leukocyte count of >15,000 cells/mL or serum creatinine of >1.5 mg/dL

b: Interquartile range

Abbreviations: SD, standard deviation; WBC, white blood cell; RBC, red blood cell; PLT, platelets; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; AST, aspartate aminotransferase; CR, creatinine; UN, urea nitrogen; CRP, C-reactive protein; PCT, procalcitonin