



In response to: “Effective prophylaxis regimens against *Cutibacterium acnes* in Neurosurgery” by d’Alessandris et al.

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Received: 9 February 2021 / Accepted: 11 February 2021 / Published online: 4 March 2021
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Dear Editor,

We appreciate the illustrative comments and widened perspective given by D’Allesandris et al. on the subject of pre-operative prophylaxis in intracranial tumor surgery. The description of the microbiological features of *Cutibacterium (Propionibacterium) acnes*, including its antibiotic resistance pattern, highlights the importance of an accurate choice of pre-operative antibiotic prophylaxis.

As pointed out by D’Allesandris and colleagues, also indolent surgical site infections (SSIs) caused by *C. acnes* may cause severe consequences for the neurosurgical patient, such as bone flap osteomyelitis and abscesses [1, 2]. In our study, we also found that an accurate antibiotic prophylaxis reduced

the risk of SSI and thereby the need for broad-spectrum antibiotic treatment, including vancomycin and imipenem.

References

1. Haruki Y et al (2017) Risk factors for *Propionibacterium acnes* infection after neurosurgery: a case-control study. *J Infect Chemother* 23:256–258
2. Pietropaoli C et al (2020) Cerebral empyema and abscesses due to *Cutibacterium acnes*. *Med Mal Infect* 50:274–279

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This article is part of the Topical Collection on *Infection*

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