Intensive Care Bloodstream Infections Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic

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OBJECTIVE

Compare bacteraemia among intensive-care patients before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

METHODS

A retrospective cohort included 810 admissions to the University Hospital of the West Indies intensive-care unit from March 2019 through February 2021.

RESULTS

Bacteraemia prevalence rose from 17% before the pandemic to 28% during the first pandemic year. During that year, prevalence was 46.5% in patients with COVID-19 and 22.1% in patients without it.

CONCLUSION

The authors called for further study to determine what contributed to the observed differences.