

## Supplementary data

**Table S1.** Study population characteristics stratified by diagnosis of local versus systemic infection.

Variable	Local Infection (n=67)	Systemic infection (n= 15)	p-value
Male sex	54 (80.5%)	11 (73%)	0.50
Coronary artery disease	21 (34.4%)	5 (35.7%)	1
Heart failure	27 (43.5%)	6 (43%)	1
Atrial Fibrillation	21 (34.4%)	6 (43%)	0.55
Systemic arterial hypertension	45 (72.5%)	9 (64%)	0.53
Diabetes	15 (24.2%)	3 (21.4%)	1
Anemia	10 (16.4%)	7 (46.7%)	<b>0.012</b>
White blood cells			0.51
<4500 ( <i>leukopenia</i> )	22 (36.6%)	4 (26.6%)	
4500-9800( <i>normal range</i> )	32 (53.3%)	8 (53.2%)	
>9800 ( <i>leukocytosis</i> )	6 (11.1%)	3 (20.2%)	
C-reactive protein $\geq 3$ mg/dL	44 (78.5%)	13(92.8%)	0.44
Chronic kidney disease	16 (23.88%)	7 (46.67%)	0.13
Left ventricular ejection fraction			0.60
<30%	21 (43.8%)	4 (30.8%)	
30-50%	9 (18.7%)	2 (15.4%)	
>50%	18 (37.5%)	7 (53.8%)	
Age at extraction, years	79.7 [11.2]	78.7 [12.3]	0.91
Number of implants			0.92
1	26 (59.1%)	6 (54.4%)	
2	11 (25%)	4 (36.6%)	
3	5 (11.4%)	1 (9%)	
4	2 (4.5%)	0 (0%)	
Older leads, months	109 [82]	112 [76]	0.98
Type of device			0.31
<i>Single PM</i>	2 (3.1%)	1 (6.6%)	
<i>Single ICD</i>	7 (10.8%)	2 (13.4%)	
<i>Dual PM</i>	31 (47.7%)	5 (33.3%)	
<i>Dual ICD</i>	3 (4.6%)	3 (20%)	
<i>CRT-P</i>	9 (13.8%)	1 (6.7%)	
<i>CRT-D</i>	13 (20%)	3 (20%)	
Coil (yes/no)	23 (35.4%)	8 (53.3%)	0.24
Coil			0.68
<i>Single</i>	10 (47.6%)*	5 (62.5%)*	
<i>Dual</i>	11 (52.4%)*	3 (37.5%)*	
<i>*out of 31 pts implanted with single ICD, dual ICD, CRT-D</i>			
Number of catheters			0.14
1	8 (12.1%)	5 (33.3%)	
2	37 (56.1%)	7 (46.7%)	
3	15 (22.7%)	1 (6.7%)	
4	6 (9.1%)	2 (13.3%)	
Number of extracted catheters			0.17
1	9 (13.6%)	5 (33.3%)	
2	35 (53%)	7 (46.7%)	
3	16 (24.4%)	1 (6.6%)	
4	6 (9%)	2 (13.4%)	
Previously abandoned catheter $\geq 1$	10 (17.85%)	3 (20%)	0.70
Technique of extraction			0.53
<i>Traction</i>	6 (%)	0 (0%)	
<i>Mechanical dilator sheath</i>	51 (%)	14 (93.3%)	
<i>Powered sheath</i>	9 (%)	1 (6.7%)	
Procedure duration, minutes	127 $\pm$ 45.1	115 $\pm$ 57	0.38

Procedural success				0.22
	<i>complete</i>	60 (89.6%)	12 (80%)	
	<i>clinical</i>	3 (4.4%)	1 (6.7%)	
	<i>surgical extraction</i>	0 (0%)	1 (6.7%)	
	<i>procedural failure</i>	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	
	<i>complications</i>	4 (6%)	1 (6.7%)	