

# EQUAL Candida Score 2018: An ECMM Score Derived From Current Guidelines to Measure **QUAL**ity of Clinical Candidemia Management

## EQUAL Candida Score 2018 <sup>1,2</sup>

### Diagnosis

Initial blood culture (40mL) <sup>3,4</sup>

3

Species identification <sup>3,4</sup>

3

Susceptibility testing <sup>3,4</sup>

2

Echocardiography <sup>3,5</sup>

1

Ophthalmoscopy <sup>5,6</sup>

1

### Treatment

Echinocandin treatment <sup>3,5</sup>

3

Step down to fluconazole depending on susceptibility result <sup>3,5</sup>

2

Treatment for 14 days after first negative follow-up culture <sup>3,5</sup>

2

CVC carriers\*: CVC removal <sup>3,5,7</sup>  
 ≤ 24 hours from diagnosis 3  
 > 24 < 72 h hours from diagnosis 2

3

2

\* CVC carriers receive extra points, total score thus differs in Non-CVC vs. CVC carriers

### Follow-Up

Follow-up blood culture (at least one per day until negative) <sup>3,5</sup>

2

## Background

The EQUAL Candida Score weighs and aggregates factors recommended for the ideal management of candidemia and provides a tool for antifungal stewardship as well as for measuring guideline adherence. Current guidelines provided by the *European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*<sup>4,5</sup> and by the *Infectious Diseases Society of America*<sup>3</sup> were reviewed and the strongest recommendations for management quality selected as basis for this scoring tool.

## Maximum Score

Non-CVC carriers	
Diagnosis	10
Treatment	7
Follow-up	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>

CVC carriers	
Diagnosis	10
Treatment	10
Follow-up	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>

## References

1. Mellinghoff et al. *Mycoses* 2018; 2. Koehler et al. *Mycoses* 2014; 3. Pappas et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2016; 4. Cuenca-Estrella et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2012; 5. Cornely et al. *Clin Microbiol Infect* 2012; 6. Munoz et al. *Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis* 2017; 7. Andes et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2012.



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