

**Table 91: Clinical evidence profile: Comparison 2. Cohort segregation by location versus no cohort segregation**

Quality assessment							No of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Cohort segregation into different pathogens by location	No cohort segregation	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute		
<b>Annual incidence of new growths of <i>P aeruginosa</i> (follow-up 9 years)</b>												
1 (Lee 2004)	observational studies	very serious <sup>1</sup>	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	Not calculable <sup>2</sup>	none	The annual incidence of new growths of <i>P aeruginosa</i> , while fluctuating, showed no downward trend, despite segregation. <sup>3</sup> N of patients unclear.		ns	-	VERY LOW	CRITICAL

Quality assessment							No of patients		Effect		Quality	Importance
No of studies	Design	Risk of bias	Inconsistency	Indirectness	Imprecision	Other considerations	Cohort segregation into different pathogens by location	No cohort segregation	Relative (95% CI)	Absolute		
<b>Yearly prevalence of chronic <i>P aeruginosa</i> infection (follow-up 9 years)</b>												
1 (Lee 2004)	observational studies	very serious <sup>1</sup>	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	serious <sup>4</sup>	none	326/1803 patient months (18.1%) <sup>3</sup>	237/966 patient months (24.5%) <sup>3</sup>	OR 0.68 (0.56 to 0.82)	64 fewer per 1000 (from 35 fewer to 91 fewer)	VERY LOW	CRITICAL
<b>Yearly prevalence of intermittent <i>P aeruginosa</i> infection (follow-up 9 years)</b>												
1 (Lee 2004)	observational studies	very serious <sup>1</sup>	no serious inconsistency	no serious indirectness	no serious imprecision	none	622/1083 patient months (57.4%) <sup>3</sup>	253/966 patient months (26.2%) <sup>3</sup>	OR 3.8 (3.15 to 4.59)	312 more per 1000 (from 266 more to 358 more)	VERY LOW	CRITICAL

Abbreviations: CI: confidence interval; ns: not significant; OR: odds ratio

1 The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 2 because high risk of bias in relation to sample selection, comparability between groups, and outcome assessment and reporting

2 Imprecision cannot be calculated with the data provided

3 Intervention group: data from 2000; comparison group: data from 1990. Intervention implemented in 1991.

4 The quality of the evidence was downgraded by 1 as the CI crossed 1 default MID