COMMENTARY

Infectious complications following prostate biopsy: a problem with need for solution

Jay D. Raman, MD
Department of Urology, Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pennsylvania, USA

Referring to the article published on pp. 6811-6814 in this issue

Finally, administration of a topical antiseptic to the rectal vault just prior to biopsy may present an alternative strategy. Povidone-iodine is a commonly used topical antiseptic that dramatically reduces microorganism colonies when applied to a surgical site. A recent prospective, randomized study found that rectal cleansing with povidone-iodine was safe and indicated a 42% relative risk reduction (albeit not statistically significant, p = 0.15) in infectious complications.

Multiple innovative strategies are emerging to target infections post-biopsy. Such studies are increasingly paramount given the increased scrutiny for iatrogenic infections and critical analysis of morbidity of prostate cancer screening.

Address correspondence to Dr. Jay D. Raman, Department of Urology, Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, 500 University Drive, c4830b, Hershey, PA 17036 USA

References