Supplementary Table 2. Microbiological characteristics of reclassified patients, and conclusion drawn by the Expert Committee

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| **patient** | **Culture results a** | **16S results a** | **Conclusion of expert committee** |
| A001 | 3/3 ; Negative | 3/3 ; Negative | Non-infectious knee arthritis of favourable evolution after treatment by triamcinolone synoviorthesis |
| A033 | 2/2 ; Negative | 1/2 ; Negative1/2; Staphylococcus spp. | Biological inflammatory syndrome associated with oligoarthritis of probably inflammatory etiology, with partial improvement under non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and joint infiltration of corticosteroids. |
| A038 | 4/4 ; Negative | 4/4 ; Negative | synovitis and tenosynovitis improved by treatment with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and immunoglobulins |
| A044 | 2/2 ; Negative | 2/2 ; Negative | inflammatory sacroiliitis treated with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs |
| A049 | 2/2 ; Negative | 2/2 ; Negative | Primary diffuse large B-cell lymphoma of bone |
| A051 | 3/4 ; Negative1/4; S.epidermidis | 4/4 ; Negative | Rheumatoid arthritis flare-up |
| A053 | 1/1; Staphylococcus spp. | 1/1 ; Negative | Monoarthritis of the knee with good clinical outcome after puncture and treatment with diclofenac |
| A060 | 4/4 ; Negative | 4/4 ; Negative | Microcrystalline arthropathy |
| A062 | 1/1 ; Negative | 1/1 ; Negative | Psoriatic arthritis |
| A069 | 1/1; M. luteus+C.acnes | 1/1 ; Negative | Post-traumatic reactional synovitis |
| S008 | 1/1 ; Negative | 1/1 ; Negative | Inflammatory disc disease treated with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs |
| S012 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | Microcrystalline spondylodiscitis |
| S026 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | Inflammatory disc disease |
| S053 | 1/3 ; Negative1/3; Micrococcus spp.1/3 C.acnes | 3/3 ; Negative | Vertebral collapse |
| S062 | 3/4 ; Negative1/4; S.aureus | 4/4 ; Negative | inflammatory sacroiliitis treated with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs |
| S084 | 2/2 ; Negative | 2/2 ; Negative | Inflammatory disc disease |
| P038 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | Pseudoarthrosis |
| P004 | 3/3 ; Negative | 3/3 ; Negative | sterile pseudarthrosis of the left femoral neck in patient with rheumatoid arthritis |
| P005 | 2/3 ; Negative1/3; C.acnes | 3/3 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P006 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P008 | 2/2 ; Negative | 2/2 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P009 | 2/2 ; Negative | 1/2 ; Negative1/2; Staphylococcus spp. | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P011 | 4/4 ; Negative | 4/4 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P012 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P016 | 1/1 ; Negative | 1/1 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P018 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P019 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | dislocation of hip prosthesis |
| P022 | 4/4 ; Negative | 4/4 ; Negative | mechanical instability of gamma nail |
| P035 | 4/4 ; Negative | 4/4 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P041 | 3/3 ; Negative | 3/3 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P046 | 5/5 ; Negative | 5/5 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |
| P052 | 1/1 ; Negative | 1/1 ; Negative | aseptic loosening of prosthetic implant |

a No. result/No. sample tested; result