Invitation to participate: MegaPJI multicentre study

30 October 2026

Microbiological Profile, Antibiotic Resistance Patterns, and Clinical Outcomes of Megaprosthesis Infections

Dear Colleague,

We are pleased to invite your centre to join an international, multicentre retrospective study on periprosthetic infection after megaprosthetic reconstruction. The study has been approved by the Acıbadem University Medical Research Assessment Committee (ATADEK 2026-14/670, 24 September 2026).

Megaprosthesis infection remains one of the most common and most devastating failure modes in orthopaedic oncology, yet the causative organisms and their resistance profiles differ between countries and centres. Single-centre series are too small to show these differences. By pooling data across Europe and beyond, we aim to build a resistance "heatmap" of megaprosthesis infections that can guide empirical antibiotic choice, spacer and cement antibiotics, and prophylaxis.

Aims

1. Describe the organisms causing megaprosthesis PJI and their antibiotic resistance patterns, by centre and country.
2. Identify host, tumour and surgical factors associated with infection and with resistant organisms.
3. Report treatment strategies (DAIR, one- and two-stage revision, amputation) and their outcomes, including infection control, limb salvage and survival.

Who can be included

Patients of any age who received a megaprosthesis (endoprosthetic reconstruction for tumour or non-tumour indications) and developed a periprosthetic joint infection, with at least 3 months of follow-up after diagnosis.

What we ask of participating centres

- Complete the attached Excel datasheet: one row per patient, with organisms and antibiograms entered in the same row. Dropdown menus, built-in instructions and a data dictionary are included, and the Charlson index and time intervals are calculated automatically.
- Enter data in fully anonymised form. Use a study code (centre code + number, e.g. RIZZ-01) and age instead of date of birth. Do not enter names, initials or hospital record numbers. The key linking codes to patients stays at your centre.
- Obtain local ethics approval or a waiver if your institution requires one. We will gladly provide the approval letter, protocol or any other documents you need.
- Return the completed file, named with your centre code (e.g. MegaPJI_RIZZ.xlsx), to **drhbulut@icloud.com** by **31 December 2027**.

Authorship

Co-authorship is allocated by the number of eligible patients each centre contributes:

Eligible patients contributed	Co-authors per centre
10–24	3
25–49	4
50–99	5
100 or more	6

We would be delighted to have your centre on board. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Halil İbrahim Bulut at drhbulut@icloud.com.

With kind regards,

Prof. Dr. Korhan Özkan, Acıbadem University, Istanbul, Türkiye

Prof. Dr. Santiago A. Lozano-Calderón, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA

Dr. Andrea Sambri, IRCCS Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria di Bologna, Italy

Dr. Halil İbrahim Bulut, Data coordinator, Acıbadem University Korhan Özkan Orthopedic Oncology Study Group (drhbulut@icloud.com)

Attachments: ethics approval letter (ATADEK 2026-14/670); MegaPJI datasheet (Excel)