

## **Mortality, morbidity, and cost associated with febrile neutropenia in adult cancer patients.**

Kuderer NM, Dale DC, Crawford J, et al. *Cancer*. 2006;**106**:2258-66.

Study overview: This retrospective study evaluated mortality, length of hospital stay, and cost per episode in more than 40,000 cancer patients hospitalised with febrile neutropenia (FN) between 1995 and 2000 in 115 US medical centres.

Key findings: The overall inpatient mortality rate was 9.5%, ranging from 2.6% for patients without major comorbidities to  $\geq 21.4\%$  when patients had more than one co-morbidity. The mean length of stay was 11.5 days at a cost of \$19,110, with 78% of costs accounted for by approximately one third of patients who required hospitalisation for at least 10 days. In a multivariate logistic regression analysis, independent risk factors for inpatient mortality included invasive fungal infections, Gram-negative sepsis, pneumonia and other lung disease, and cerebrovascular, renal and liver disease.

Conclusions: The authors concluded that FN is associated with substantial morbidity, mortality and cost, and identified risk factors for inpatient mortality.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16575919?dopt=Citation>