

**On 360 patients suspected for skeletal infection:**

- **21 were excluded:**
  - 6 lost blood samples for PCT
  - 15 insufficient blood volume
- **339 patients were included**
  - **291 patients were non infected**
  - **48 patients were treated**
    - **The infection was confirmed on 8 patients:**
      - ✓ **6 septic arthritis** (4 kingella kingae and 2 streptococcus pyogenes)
      - ✓ **2 osteoarthritis** (1 Staphylococcus and 1 Salmonella)
    - **The infection was presumed for 40 patients:**
      - ✓ **22 septic arthritis** (purulent joint fluid aspiration but negative culture)
      - ✓ **18 osteomyelitis** (purulent bone aspiration and positive scintigraphy but negative culture **positive laboratory findings**)