VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

MEDICAL CENTER

Vanderbilt Adult Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

Algorithm for Interpreting Gram-Positive Cocci in Blood Cultures

General Information:

1. ID consult is shown to improve outcomes, including decreasing mortality, for bacteremia caused by *S. aureus* and *Enterococcus* spp.
2. Molecular testing is conducted on the first positive bottle of blood cultures collected and is not repeated on subsequent bottles showing the same morphology on Gram stain.
3. If >1 species of coagulase-negative staphylococci are isolated from blood cultures, this is indicative of contamination.
4. "Other *Streptococcus* species" indicates likely viridans group streptococci, which may represent a contaminant if in only one bottle.
5. *Staphylococcus* species on molecular ID represents a coagulase-negative staphylococci and should not be interpreted as possible *S. aureus*.
6. Consult ID if additional assistance interpreting cultures is needed.

Go to algorithm on following page

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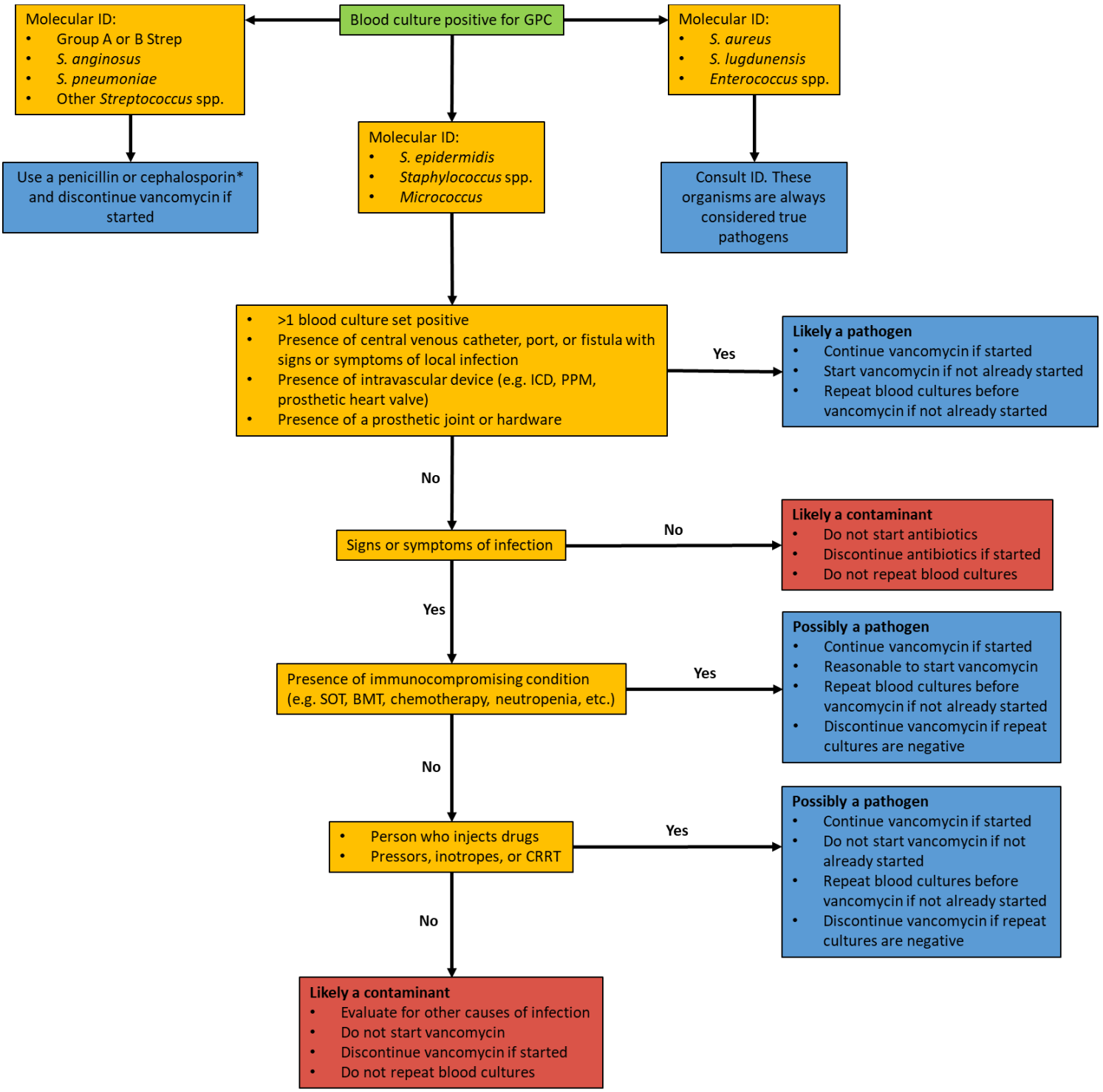

*See "Interpreting GenMark ePlex® Results" document on VASP website for treatment recommendations based on molecular ID.

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Adapted from: Goshorn, et al. Impact of rapid identification and stewardship intervention on coagulase-negative *Staphylococcus* bloodstream infection. *Open Forum Infect Dis*. 2023;10(8). doi: 10.1093/ofid/ofad416 and Holland, et al. Effect of algorithm-based therapy vs. usual care on clinical success and serious adverse events in patients with staphylococcal bacteremia: a randomized clinical trial. *JAMA*. 2018;320(12):1249-1258. doi: 10.1001/jama.2018.13155.

This document was reviewed and endorsed by the Vanderbilt Adult Antimicrobial Stewardship Program on _____

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