

# EQUAL Candida Score 2018: An ECMM Score Derived From Current Guidelines to Measure **QUALITY** of Clinical Candidemia Management

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## EQUAL Candida Score 2018 <sup>1,2</sup>

Category	Item	Score
Diagnosis	Initial blood culture (40mL) <sup>3,4</sup>	3
	Species identification <sup>3,4</sup>	3
	Susceptibility testing <sup>3,4</sup>	2
	Echocardiography <sup>3,5</sup>	1
	Ophthalmoscopy <sup>5,6</sup>	1
Treatment	Echinocandin treatment <sup>3,5</sup>	3
	Step down to fluconazole depending on susceptibility result <sup>3,5</sup>	2
	Treatment for 14 days after first negative follow-up culture <sup>3,5</sup>	2
	CVC carriers*: CVC removal <sup>3,5,7</sup>	
	≤ 24 hours from diagnosis	3
> 24 < 72 hours from diagnosis	2	
* CVC carriers receive extra points, total score thus differs in Non-CVC vs. CVC carriers		
Follow-Up	Follow-up blood culture (at least one per day until negative) <sup>3,5</sup>	2

## Background

The EQUAL Candida Score weighs and aggregates factors recommended for the ideal management of candidemia and provides a tool for antifungal stewardship as well as for measuring guideline adherence. Current guidelines provided by the *European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases* and by the *Infectious Diseases Society of America* were reviewed and the strongest recommendations for management quality selected as the bases for this scoring tool.

## Maximum score

	Non-CVC carriers	CVC carriers
Diagnosis	10	10
Treatment	7	10
Follow-Up	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>22</b>

## References

1. Mellinghoff et al. *Mycoses* 2018; 2. Koehler et al. *Mycoses* 2014; 3. Pappas et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2016; 4. Cuenca-Estrella et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2012; 5. Cornely et al. *Clin Microbiol Infect* 2012; 6. Munoz et al. *Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis* 2017; 7. Andes et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2012.

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