

Table 1. Definitions of patient characteristics

Data	Definitions
Demographic data	Age (≥ 65 years*)
Severity criteria *	WBC > 15 G/l or serum creatinine > 133 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ¹
Radiologic sign of colitis *	Abdominal computed tomography (CT) scanner with signs of colitis ² performed < 48 h before and < 10 days after test result
Obesity	Body mass index ≥ 30 ³
Chronic renal insufficiency	Creatinine clearance < 60 ml/min ⁴
History of hospitalisation *	≥ 48 h ≤ 12 weeks before prescription ⁵
History of CDI *	All patients with a history of positive test results (NAAT+ or EIA+ or TC+) who had received a treatment for CDI ⁶
History of antibiotic treatment *	≥ 48 h ≤ 4 weeks before prescription ⁷
Ongoing PPI treatment *	Any ongoing PPI treatment at the moment of the prescription ⁸
Immunosuppression *	Chemotherapy ≤ 60 days before prescription; SOT, HSCT, steroid ⁹⁻¹²
Treatment course for CDI	Introduced < 48 h before test results with a duration of ≥ 10 days ²

* Patient characteristics selected for univariate and multivariate analysis

¹ At least 20 mg/d (prednisone or equivalent) during ≥ 4 weeks before prescription

² Or still under treatment at time of death

Abbreviations: CDI: *C. difficile* infection; WBC: white blood count; NAAT: nucleic acid amplification test for toxin B gene; EIA: enzyme immunoassay for toxin A/B; TC: toxigenic culture; PPI: proton pump inhibitor; SOT: solid organ transplant; HSCT: hematopoietic stem cell transplant.

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