**Supplementary file**

**supplementary 1.** Pathogens identified in patients with polymicrobial or monomicrobial NSTI

| Gram stain | Pathogen                          | Polymicrobial (<i>n=27</i>)* | Monomicrobial (<i>n=54</i>)* |
|------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| **Positive** | Streptococcus pyogenes            | 1 (1.7)                      | 18 (33.3)                    |
|            | Streptococcus pneumonia           | 1 (1.7)                      | 0                            |
|            | Streptococcus group F             | 1 (1.7)                      | 1 (1.9)                      |
|            | Streptococcus viridans            | 3 (5)                        | 0                            |
|            | Streptococcus group B             | 1 (1.7)                      | 6 (11.1)                     |
|            | Staphylococcus aureus             | 4 (7)                        | 6 (11.1)                     |
|            | Staphylococcus coagulase negative | 2 (4)                        | 0                            |
|            | Enterococcus spp                  | 7 (13)                       | 0                            |
| **Total isolates** |                                | **20 (34)**                 | **31 (57.4)**                |
| **Negative** | Pseudomonas aeruginosa            | 4 (7)                        | 4 (7.4)                      |
|            | Escherichia coli                  | 17 (31.5)                    | 7 (13.0)                     |
|            | Enterobacter cloacae              | 1 (1.7)                      | 1 (1.9)                      |
|            | Proteus mirabilis                 | 5 (8)                        | 2 (3.7)                      |
|            | Serratia marcescens               | 0                            | 1 (1.9)                      |
|            | Klebsiella pneumoniae             | 5 (8)                        | 2 (3.7)                      |
|            | Acinetobacter baumannii           | 6 (11)                       | 3 (5.6)                      |
|            | Aeromonas hydrophila              | 0                            | 2 (3.7)                      |
| **Total isolates** |                                | **38 (70)**                 | **22 (40.7)**                |

*Values are presented as number and percentage out of total number of isolates: 58 in the polymicrobial group and 54 in the monomicrobial group. In some patients, cultures grew several types of bacteria such that the total number of isolates was larger than the number of patients.
supplementary 2. Laboratory characteristics of patients with polymicrobial or monomicrobial NSTI

| Laboratory characteristic | Polymicrobial (n=27) | Monomicrobial (n=54) | P value |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Hemoglobin (g/dl), mean±SD | 9.6±1.9             | 10.1±2.0            | 0.38   |
| WBC (x 10^9/l), mean±SD   | 18.8±6.8            | 14.1±9.5            | 0.03   |
| Platelets (x10^9/l), mean±SD | 346.9±146.1        | 229.9±122.3         | <0.001 |
| CRP (mg/dl), mean±SD      | 27.2±11.1           | 27.2±16.1           | 0.99   |
| Creatinine (mg/dl), mean±SD | 1.2±0.7             | 1.9±2.2             | 0.06   |
| Glucose (meq/l), mean±SD  | 168.5±89.6          | 177.4±117.9         | 0.73   |
| Lactate (mmol/L), mean±SD | 2.95±1.93           | 2.71±1.72           | 0.61   |
| Creatinine kinase (mg/dl), median (IQR) | 58 (18-172)       | 149 (33-464)        | 0.68   |
| Albumin (mg/dl), mean±SD  | 2.5±0.7             | 2.7±0.8             | 0.18   |
| Sodium (mEq/l), mean±SD   | 134.5±4.8           | 135.1±5.0           | 0.62   |

WBC, white blood cell count; CRP, C-reactive protein