Clinical Manifestations of Infective Endocarditis

Onset usually insidious

Unexplained fever (low grade and intermittent)

Anorexia

Malaise

Weight loss

Characteristic findings caused by extracardiac emboli formation:

- Splinter hemorrhages (thin black lines) under the nails
- Osler nodes (red, painful intradermal nodes found on pads of phalanges)
- Janeway lesions (painless hemorrhagic areas on palms and soles)
- Petechiae on oral mucous membranes

May be present:

- Heart failure
- Cardiac dysrhythmias
- New murmur or change in previously existing one

Therapeutic Management

Treatment should be instituted immediately and consists of