

European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST)

Unratified minutes of the Meeting on 4 April 2005 15th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Copenhagen, Denmark

A list of attendees who signed the register is attached.

1. Apologies for absence

None received.

2. Minutes of meeting in Prague, 4 May 2004

The minutes were approved as a true record.

3. Matters arising

Dr Donnelly asked that the Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee publication listed on the EUCAST website be corrected [ACTION Dr Brown].

4. EUCAST Steering Committee membership

Prof Kahlmeter reported that the current membership of the Steering Committee is:

Chairman	Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter	Sweden	2008
Scientific Secretary	Dr Derek Brown	UK	2008
BSAC	Prof Alasdair MacGowan	UK	2008
CRG	Dr Johan W. Mouton	Netherlands	2008
DIN	Dr Arne Rodloff	Germany	2008
NWGA	Dr Martin Steinbakk	Norway	2008
SFM	Dr Fred Goldstein	France	2008
SRGA	Dr Ingrid Nilsson-Ehle	Sweden	2008
General Committee	Dr Olga Stetsiouk	Russia	2006
General Committee	Dr Francisco Soriano	Spain	2006

The General Committee representatives will finish their terms on the Steering Committee in April 2006. Nominations for membership for 2006-2008 should be sent to the ESCMID Executive Board by February 2006.

5. Confirmation of membership of EUCAST General Committee

Membership was reviewed (the current list is attached). The list has recently been circulated asking members to confirm that they are the current representative of their country. Representatives were urged to ensure that they keep their national societies informed of EUCAST activities and to take part in the consultation process.

The email network of all interested individuals in relevant industries appears to be working well. All interested members of relevant companies are invited to join the network (contact gunnar.kahlmeter@ltkronoberg.se).

6. EUCAST progress report

Prof Kahlmeter summarised activities over the past year.

- 6.1 There have been four meetings of the Steering Committee.
- 6.2 Harmonized breakpoints for fluoroquinolones, aminoglycosides, linezolid and glycopeptides have been finalised (available on www.eucast.org).
- 6.3 The Steering Committee is currently working on harmonization of breakpoints for cephalosporins, carbapenems and aztreonam. Work on penicillins will start soon. Dr Tulkens asked what was the procedure for revision of breakpoints eg glycopeptides with staphylococci. Prof Kahlmeter agreed that this would be discussed in the Steering Committee [ACTION Prof Kahlmeter].
- 6.4 An official procedure for setting breakpoints for new antimicrobials has been agreed with the EMEA.
- 6.5 There has been sharing of data and unofficial meetings with CLSI members to discuss breakpoints for Enterobacteriaceae but the decision processes of CLSI and EUCAST will remain separate. EUCAST has links with other expert groups including gonococcal, meningococcal, anaerobe and veterinary organisations. Data are shared and opinions are invited. In response to a question regarding possible problems in formal relationships to other organisations (eg CLSI) it was noted that there were no problems the Steering Committee was aware of with other organisations and EUCAST remains committed to working with CLSI as far as possible.
- 6.6 A slideshow outlining EUCAST activity and processes can be downloaded from the EUCAST website.
- 6.7 The data in the wild type distribution program on the EUCAST website is continually being expanded. There are now over 5000 organism-antibiotic distributions from different sources, 1000 being added in the past 6 months. Many of the amalgamated distributions now include over 50000 isolates. All distributions can also be viewed as bar charts. In response to questions it was noted that there are automatic checks to prevent the same data series being entered twice, MICs from truncated ranges are excluded, series with median MICs more than one dilution from the mean are excluded and no distributions are presented for combinations where there are data from less than five sources. Dr Cormican expressed concern over the quality of data in the wild type distributions – Prof Kahlmeter noted that the checks noted above exclude problem data (about 10% of data sent to EUCAST). In response to a question for Dr Miller, Prof Kahlmeter replied that senders have not so far been told when data were not accepted but it was the intention to do so. Dr Dubreuil reported that with Mackintosh systems running Explorer there are problems with the website but with Netscape it functions correctly.
- 6.8 A protocol for Pk/Pd evaluations has been developed.
- 6.9 Rationale documents providing background data for breakpoints are being developed. Dr Tulkens asked what is the basis of the rationale documents. Prof Kahlmeter explained that they include data from pharmaceutical companies, publications, meetings and from Steering Committee members. An example of a rationale document was presented.
- 6.10 All EUCAST documents are available from the EUCAST website. A further paper outlining the EUCAST approach to breakpoints has been published (Kahlmeter, G. and Brown, D.F.J. Harmonisation of antimicrobial breakpoints

in Europe – can it be achieved? *Clinical Microbiology Newsletter* 2004; 26: 187-192). This was reprinted in ESCMID News Issue 1, 2005.

- 6.11 EUCAST continues to be supported by ESCMID, the National Breakpoint Committees of Steering Committee members and a grant from DG SANCO of the EU (May, 2005 – April, 2007).

7. EUCAST sub-committee report

Prof Kahlmeter reported that the Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Sub-committee has started the process of breakpoint setting following the same strategy as for antibacterial agents.

8. EUCAST General Committee Workshop

Prof Kahlmeter reported that a workshop on susceptibility testing will be held jointly with EARSS in Rome on 23-25 November 2005. All General Committee members will be invited.

9. Future activities

Prof Kahlmeter reported that priorities for the next year were:

- 9.1 Completion of harmonization of breakpoints for cephalosporins, carbapenems and aztreonam. As far as possible this will be done in synchrony with CLSI.
- 9.2 Start the process of harmonization of penicillin breakpoints.
- 9.3 Apply the EMEA SOP to breakpoint setting of two new drugs (daptomycin, tigecycline).
- 9.4 Develop the rationale documents to support breakpoints.
- 9.5 Update documents as required.
- 9.6 Run the joint meeting with EARSS in November 2005.

10. Any other business

None.

11. The next meeting of the EUCAST Committee

Scheduled for 16th ECCMID, Nice, France 1-4 April 2007.

General Meeting attendees signing the register, 4 April 2005

Dr Jane Ambler	Bayer, West Haven, USA
Prof Arvydas Ambroziatis	Vilnius, Lithuania
Prof Jacques Bille	Lausanne, Switzerland
Dr Derek Brown	Cambridge, UK
Dr Joseph Chow	Merck, West Point, USA
Prof Martin Cormican	Galway, Ireland
Dr William Craig	Madison, USA
Dr Manuel Cuenca-Estrella	Madrid, Spain
Dr Justin Daniels	GSK, Brentford, UK
Dr Mike Dudley	Diversa Corp, San Diego, USA
Dr Charlotta Edlund	Uppsala, Sweden
Dr Evelyn Ellis-Grosse	Wyeth, Collegeville, USA
Dr Ana Espinel-Ingroff	Richmond, USA
Dr Christian Giske	Solna, Sweden
Dr Roger Grist	Trek Diagnostics, East Grinstead, UK
Dr Maria Hedberg	Stockholm, Sweden
Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter	Vaxjo, Sweden
Dr Laura Koeth	Laboratory Specialists Inc, Westlake, USA
Dr Steven Luperchio	Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Lexington, USA
Prof Alasdair MacGowan	Bristol, UK
Dr Maureen Mansfield	Trek Diagnostics, East Grinstead, UK
Dr Jean-Pierre Marcel	bioMerieux, Marcy-L'Etoile
Dr Roland Martelin	bioMerieux, La Balme Les Grottes, France
Dr Linda Miller	GSK, Collegeville, USA
Dr Johan Mouton	Nijmegen, Netherlands
Dr Olav Natas	Stavangr, Norway
Dr Barbro Olsson Liljeqvist	Solna, Sweden
Prof Ian Phillips	Malaga, Spain
Dr Anne Pinault	bioMerieux, Nancy-L'Etoile, France
Dr James Poupard	Philadelphia, USA
Prof Arne Rodloff	Leipzig, Germany
Dr Luca Rollo	La Celle Saint-Cloud
Dr Juan-Luis Rodriguez-Tudela	Majadahonda, Spain
Dr Arno Schmalreck	Munich, Germany
Dr Dan Sheehan	Pfizer, New York, USA
Dr Ribhi Shewar	GSK, Collegeville, USA
Dr Dee Shortridge	bioMerieux, St Louis, USA
Prof Sergei Sidorenko	Moscow, Russia
Dr Martin Steinbakk	Nordbyhagen, Norway
Dr Olga Stetsiouk	Smolensk, Russia
Dr Agnieszka Sulikowska	Warsaw, Poland
Dr Aranja Tambic-Andrasevic	Zagreb, Croatia
Dr Grace Thorne	Cubist Pharmaceuticals, Lexington, USA
Dr Clyde Thornsberry	Focus BioInova, Franklin, USA
Dr Paul Tulkens	Brussels, Belgium
Dr Jef Van Schaeren	Wilrijk, Belgium
Dr Netonyne Sznype	Warsaw, Poland
Mr Thierry Vidalenc	Leuven, Belgium
Prof Bernd Wiedemann	Schaalby, Germany
Dr R Zbindeu	Zurich, Switzerland
Dr Barbara Zimmer	Dade Behring Microscan, West Sacramento, USA

EUCAST General Committee April 2005

Chairman	Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter
Scientific Secretary	Dr Derek Brown
National representatives	
Austria	Prof. Helmut Mittermayer
Belgium	Prof. Jan Verhaegen
Bosnia	Dr Selma Uzunovic-Kamberovic
Bulgaria	Prof. Krassimir Metodiev
Croatia	Dr Arjana Tambic-Andrasevic
Czech Republic	Dr Pavla Urbaskova
Denmark	Dr Niels Frimodt-Møller
Estonia	Dr Paul Naaber
Finland	Dr Antti Nissinen
France	Prof. Claude-James Soussy
Germany	Prof. Bernd Wiedemann
Greece	Prof. Alkiviadis Vatopoulos
Hungary	Dr Éva Bán
Iceland	Dr Karl Gustaf Kristinsson
Ireland	Dr Martin Cormican
Italy	Prof. Pietro Varaldo
Lithuania	Prof. Arvydsa Ambrozaitis
Netherlands	Prof. John Degener
Norway	Dr Martin Steinbakk
Poland	Prof. Waleria Hryniewicz
Portugal	Prof. Jose Melo Cristino
Romania	no representative
Russia	Dr Olga Stetsiouk
Serbia	Dr Lazar Ranin
Slovak Republic	Prof. Milan Niks
Slovenia	Dr Jana Kolman
Spain	Dr Francisco Soriano
Sweden	Dr Barbro Olsson-Liljequist
Switzerland	Prof. Jacques Bille
Turkey	Dr Deniz Gür
UK	Prof Alasdair MacGowan
Yugoslavia	no representative
ISC	Dr Paul Tulkens
FESCI	Dr David Livermore
Pharmaceutical Industry	Email network of any with an interest in antimicrobials
Device Manufacturers	Email network of any with an interest in antimicrobials