

European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST)

Unratified minutes of the Meeting on 19 April 2008 18th European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Barcelona, Spain

A list of attendees who signed the register is attached.

1. Apologies for absence

Prof. Alasdair MacGowan, Prof. Krassimir Metodiev.

2. Minutes of meeting in Munich, 31 March 2007

The minutes were approved as a true record.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. EUCAST Steering Committee membership

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

Chairman	Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter	Sweden	2011
Scientific Secretary	Dr Derek Brown	UK	2011
Clinical Data Coordinator	Dr Rafael Canton	Spain	2011
BSAC	Prof Alasdair MacGowan	UK	2011
CRG	Dr Johan W. Mouton	Netherlands	2011
DIN	Dr Arne Rodloff	Germany	2011
NWGA	Dr Martin Steinbakk	Norway	2011
SFM	Prof Claude-James Soussy	France	2011
SRGA	Prof Ingrid Odenholt / Dr Christan Giske	Sweden	2011
General Committee	Prof Waleria Hryniewicz	Poland	2008
General Committee	Prof Pietro Varaldo	Italy	2008

The General Committee representatives will finish their terms on the Steering Committee after the meeting in April 2008 and the new representatives will be Dr Antti Nissinen (Finland) and Prof Paul Tulkens (ISC).

5. Confirmation of membership of EUCAST General Committee

5.1 The membership list was presented (the current list is attached). Representatives were asked to inform the Scientific Secretary if the current representative of their country has changed. They were also asked to ensure that they keep their national societies informed of EUCAST activities and to take part in the consultation process.

5.2 Anyone in the pharmaceutical and susceptibility device manufacturing industries may be part of the industry email network that is included in the consultation process (email gunnar.kahlmeter@ltkronoberg.se). Members changing email addresses were requested to inform Prof Kahlmeter and email correspondence

rejected twice will be removed from the list.

6. EUCAST progress report

Prof Kahlmeter summarised activities over the past year.

- 6.1 There have been five meetings of the Steering Committee. In addition there have been numerous presentations at a variety of meetings.
- 6.2 Harmonization of breakpoints for older agents will be completed in 2008. Groups to be completed are penicillins (almost finished) and oral cephalosporins. GK highlighted some outstanding issues with penicillins (different dosages, breakpoints for *S. pneumoniae* and *N. meningitidis*, Enterobacteriaceae and aminopenicillins). It has not yet been decided which oral cephalosporins will be included.
- 6.3 The different understanding and use of the intermediate category in different countries was highlighted. It was suggested that some educational activity may be needed, but it was noted that the intermediate category is defined in EUCAST documents and the ISO/CEN reference methods for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.
- 6.4 It was noted that the collaboration with EMEA in the setting of breakpoints for new agents according to the EMEA SOP (available on the EUCAST website) works very well - breakpoints have been set for daptomycin and tigecycline, and several more are in the pipeline.
- 6.5 Rationale documents explaining the basis of breakpoints are being prepared for each agent. Currently they are available for fluoroquinolones and new agents. Several more are close to completion and will be added to the EUCAST website as they are completed. It was suggested that they are needed as early as possible so that companies can understand the rationale if their suggestions were not accepted. Technical notes giving the background to EUCAST breakpoints are being published in CMI. New drugs will each have a technical note and existing drugs will have a technical note for each class of agents.
- 6.6 EUCAST has a very good relationship with ESCMID, which is very supportive and EUCAST greatly values the professional association with ESCMID.
- 6.7 The EUCAST website continues to be expanded and gives details of EUCAST activity including organisation, meetings, breakpoint tables, documents and guidelines. The data in the wild type distribution program on the website now includes over 13,000 organism-antibiotic distributions from different sources.
- 6.8 EUCAST continues to be financially supported by ESCMID, the National Breakpoint Committees of Steering Committee members and, on an interim basis, ECDC has continued the EU grant which finished in April 2007. ECDC has asked for proposals regarding susceptibility testing and, in conjunction with ESCMID, EUCAST has submitted a proposal.

7. EUCAST subcommittee reports

- 7.1 Prof Rodriguez-Tudela, chairman of the Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee, reported that the subcommittee Steering Committee has met three times in the past year and the full committee meets at each ECCMID. Membership of the Subcommittee and Steering Committee are attached. They have developed fluconazole breakpoints and these, together with a rationale document and technical note, have been published. Breakpoints for other agents are now being considered and are at various stages of development. A definitive document on susceptibility testing of fermentative yeasts has been published in CMI. A similar

document for filamentous fungi has just been completed and work is underway on a document and on selection of control strains for non-fermentative yeasts (see EUCAST website for documents). Workshops have been organised in Argentina and Austria and another is planned for The Netherlands

7.2 Prof Kahlmeter reported that Dr Roland Leclercq has chaired the Expert Rules Subcommittee over the past 18 months. Following extensive consultation, version 1.0 of the rules has been completed and is available from the EUCAST website.

7.3 Prof Rodloff reported on the anaerobe Subcommittee. Breakpoints for anaerobes have been proposed and are being discussed and incorporated into breakpoint tables by the Steering Committee. A reference methodology needs to be considered as the ISO broth microdilution method is not appropriate for anaerobes. It was noted that MIC distribution data on anaerobes can be submitted via Prof Rodloff or Prof Kahlmeter (see EUCAST website for contact details).

8. EUCAST breakpoints

Prof Kahlmeter presented EUCAST breakpoint tables covering different groups of antimicrobial breakpoints. All are now completed except penicillins (available very soon) and oral cephalosporins (expected completion autumn 2008).

9. Future activities

Prof Kahlmeter reported that priorities for the next year were:

9.1 Secure future funding for EUCAST.

9.2 Completion of harmonization of breakpoints for penicillins and oral cephalosporins.

9.3 Apply the EMEA SOP to breakpoint setting for four to five new drugs.

9.4 Continue to develop the rationale documents on the EUCAST website and technical notes in CMI.

9.5 Implementation of EUCAST breakpoints will be a major issue for the future. It is expected that a disk diffusion breakpoints will be published for the Kirby-Bauer technique, which is widely used. Breakpoints will be implemented in existing methods and automated systems during 2009. The establishment of "National Antibiotic Committees" in countries where these do not currently exist will be encouraged in order to provide a route for national consultation in Europe on issues of antimicrobial chemotherapy including susceptibility testing. Concern was expressed about how different routine methods would relate to EUCAST breakpoints, but it was explained that all methods should be related to the EUCAST breakpoints tested by the ISO standard broth microdilution method and with performance evaluated as defined in the ISO standard method (see EUCAST website for details).

10. Any other business

10.1 Collaboration with breakpoint organisations outside Europe.

In response to a question from Prof Tulkens, Prof Kahlmeter replied that EUCAST was very busy with European activities and had no immediate plans to discuss collaboration with breakpoint organisations outside Europe. However, EUCAST has good relationships with individuals in many countries and are happy to talk to any organisation wanting to link with EUCAST.

11. The next meeting of the EUCAST Committee

Scheduled for 19th ECCMID, Helsinki, Finland 16-19 May 2008.

General Meeting attendees signing the register, 19 April 2008

Jeff Alder	Bayer Healthcare
Naanashriti Alexander	Georgia
Jane Ambler	AstraZeneka
Arvydas Ambroziatis	Lithuania
Amanda Appleton	Oxoid
Gioia Babini	BD
Arta Balode	Latvia
Jacques Bille	Switzerland
Inge Boe	Leo Pharma
Derek Brown	UK
Karen Bush	J&J
Rafael Canton	Spain
Manuel Cuenca-Estrella	Spain
Maj Dinesen	Leo Pharma
Peter Donnelly	Netherlands
Tracy Dooley	CLSI
Philippe Dufour	bioMérieux
Evelyn Ellis-Grosse	USA
Sheila Farnham	bioMérieux
Bob Flamm	J&J
Antti Hakanen	Finland
Pat Hogan	Pfizer
Yasir Ibrahim	USA
Judith Johnston	Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics
Ron Jones	JMI Laboratories
Manette Juvn	Bio-Rad
Katharina Kähler	bioMérieux
Gunnar Kahlmeter	Sweden
Ulrich Knauf	bioMérieux
Laura Koeth	Laboratory Specialists Inc
Ulrike Kunert	BD
Blairon Laurent	Belgium
Olga Lebdeva	Russia
Daniel Malait	Bio-Rad
Linda Miller	USA
Lupse Minaela	Romania
Helmut Mittermayer	Austria
Mary Motyl	Merck
Johan Mouton	Netherlands
James Poupard	Pharma Institute of Phila
Arne Rodloff	Germany
Juan-Luis Rodriguez-Tudela	Spain
Arno Schmalreck	MBS
Carole Schubert	bioMérieux
Dee Shortridge	bioMérieux
Martin Springsklee	Bayer Healthcare
Martin Steinbakk	Norway
Olga Stetsiouk	Russia
Arjana Tambic-Andrasevic	Croatia
Paul Tulkens	Belgium
Randy Turner	bioMérieux
Johan Van Eldere	Belgium
Jan Verhaegen	Belgium
Jost Winnemöller	Infectopharm
Barbara Zimmer	Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics

EUCAST General Committee April 2008

Chairman	Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter
Scientific Secretary	Dr Derek Brown
Clinical Data Coordinator	Dr Rafael Canton
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 Marina Ivanova
Finland	Dr Antti Hakkanen
France	Prof. Luc Dubreuil
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
Latvia	Dr A. Balode
Lichtenstein	No representative
Lithuania	Prof. Arvydsa Ambrozaitis
Macedonia	No representative
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

EUCAST Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee

Steering Committee

Maiken Cavling Arendrup, Denmark
Cornelia Lass-Floerl, Austria
M. Cuenca-Estrella
Juan Luis Rodriguez-Tudela, Spain (Chairman)
Manuel Cuenca-Estrella, Spain
J Peter Donnelly, the Netherlands (Secretary)

Full Committee

Maiken Cavling Arendrup, Denmark
Malcolm Richardson, Finland
Eric Dannaoui, France;
Wolfgang Fegeler, Germany
Francesco Barchiesi, Italy
J Peter Donnelly, the Netherlands (Secretary)
Paul Verweij, the Netherlands
Peter Gaustad, Norway
Juan Luis Rodriguez-Tudela, Spain (Chairman)
Manuel Cuenca-Estrella, Spain
Erja Chryssanthou, Sweden
Jacques Bille, Switzerland
Caroline Moore, UK
David Denning, UK
Cornelia Lass-Floerl, Austria
Aristia Velegraki, Greece
Nikolay Klimko, Russia
Arno Schmalreck, Germany
Sevtap Arikan, Turkey