

EUCAST Steering Committee Meeting

Summary of minutes of meeting in Rome, Italy, 21 – 22 November 2005

Attending

Dr Derek F.J. Brown	DB	Scientific Secretary	United Kingdom
Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter	GK	Chairperson	Sweden
Prof Alasdair P. MacGowan	AM	BSAC	United Kingdom
Dr Johan W. Mouton	JM	CRG	The Netherlands
Prof Arne Rodloff	AR	DIN	Germany
Dr Francisco Soriano	FS	EUCAST	Spain
Prof Claude-James Soussy	C-JS	SFM	France
Dr Olga Stetsiouk	OS	EUCAST	Russia

Apologies

Dr Fred Goldstein	FG	SFM	France
Dr Ingrid Nilsson-Ehle	IN-E	SRGA	Sweden
Dr Anders Österlund	AO	SRGA	Sweden
Dr Martin Steinbakk	MS	NWGA	Norway

1	Chairman's welcome C-JS represented SFM in place of FG.
2	Minutes of meeting of 12-13 September 2005 With minor modifications the minutes were accepted as a correct record.
3	Matters arising from minutes of 12-13 September 2005 No MIC data for cefepime and <i>N. gonorrhoeae</i> have been found in the literature and the Swedish reference laboratory has none. The EMEA have been asked to consider a procedure for revising breakpoints. A footnote has been added to the breakpoint table indicating why the imipenem breakpoint was raised for <i>Pseudomonas</i> and enterococci. A footnote had been added to the breakpoint table indicating that a high dose of cefotaxime/ceftriaxone is needed for central nervous system infections with pneumococci. To be checked whether expert groups were included in the consultation on breakpoints. Cefazolin breakpoints are included in the cephalosporin table. The definition of intermediate category has been changed in EUCAST documents. The Antifungal Sub-Committee would be interested in a CEN/ISO document on fermentative yeasts and CEN will be contacted.
4	Meetings with ECDC Meetings have been held with ECDC regarding the future relationship of EUCAST to ECDC.
5	Daptomycin Daptomycin has been registered by the EMEA. Enterococci are not included in the SPC and only the EUCAST breakpoints are included. The EUCAST breakpoint table is now on the EUCAST website and the rationale document is undergoing final checking.
6	Links to rationale documents from breakpoint tables A column has been added in the breakpoint tables to provide a link to the rationale document. A footnote will be added to indicate that clicking the antibiotic name provides a link to the wild type distributions.

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| 7 | <p>CEN/ISO
The standard microdilution MIC method will soon be sent for final voting. A document on evaluation of in-vitro devices for susceptibility testing will go out for comment early next year.</p> |
| 8 | <p>EUCAST documents
The yeast micro-dilution method should soon be available as a definitive document. The future of documents on intracellular pathogens and mycobacteria is under discussion.</p> |
| 9 | <p>Fluconazole breakpoints
The rationale document is being developed. The consultation process for breakpoints will be the same as that for antibacterial agents and the timescale for this would be discussed with Sub-Committee secretary.</p> |
| 10 | <p>Vancomycin breakpoints for <i>S. aureus</i>
It was recognised that the impact of reducing the S/I breakpoint to 2 mg/L on teicoplanin breakpoints, and breakpoints for coagulase-negative staphylococci, should be considered. National Committees will be asked for their views.</p> |
| 11 | <p>Joint meeting with EARSS, Rome, 25 November 2005
The programme had been modified to make it more appropriate for the industry networks.</p> |
| 12 | <p>EUCAST workshop at ECCMID, Nice, 1 April 2006
Provisional programme on the need for speciation in susceptibility testing, and problem areas, was agreed.</p> |
| 13 | <p>EUCAST website
EUCAST website (http://www.eucast.org) to be reviewed to ensure that it is up-to-date.</p> |
| 14 | <p>Tigecycline breakpoints
Breakpoints were discussed in the light of comments from Wyeth and changes agreed in advance of meeting with Wyeth.</p> |
| 15 | <p>Presentation of breakpoints when resistance is unknown or very rare
Consultation on this had produced little response and there was no consensus. Agreed to put the second figure in italics, together with a footnote eg. 0.12/0.12³.</p> |
| 16 | <p>Consultation on breakpoints
All comments received on aztreonam, cephalosporin and carbapenem breakpoints were discussed and some changes agreed.</p> <p>Draft breakpoint tables and rationale documents will be updated and National Committees asked for final comments.</p> <p>Cefpirome and cefoxitin are rarely used clinically and breakpoints will not be set.</p> |
| 17 | <p>Use of β-lactam inhibitor combinations
Data in MIC distributions to be separated on the basis of whether fixed inhibitor concentrations or ratios were used in testing.</p> |
| 18 | <p>Penicillin rationale documents
Documents with basic data are being prepared as the first stage in setting breakpoints.</p> |
| 19 | <p>Other rationale documents
Documents for glycopeptides, linezolid, quinolones and aminoglycosides are close to completion.</p> |
| 20 | <p>Discussion on future activities of EUCAST
The objective is to complete harmonisation of existing breakpoints by the end of 2008. The two outstanding major groups are oral beta-lactams and macrolides.</p> |

	<p>A small number of new agents are expected.</p> <p>The current EUCAST structure and links with CLSI and expert groups will be maintained and the relationship to ECDC will be developed.</p> <p>EUCAST websites have been successful and will be further developed.</p> <p>EUCAST meetings, particularly Steering Committee meetings, are an essential part of the work of developing harmonised breakpoints and these will continue.</p> <p>A EUCAST disc diffusion method might be considered.</p> <p>Scientific support for the Steering Committee will be sought.</p>
<p>21</p>	<p>Any other business</p> <p>Inger Odenholt would be attending for SRGA from the next meeting onwards.</p> <p>CA-SFM guidelines for glycopeptide testing of enterococci to be discussed at next meeting.</p> <p>An Expert Rules Sub-Committee will be set up.</p> <p>Nominations had been requested for EUCAST General Committee representatives on the Steering Committee from April 2006.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>22.1</p> <p>22.2</p> <p>22.3</p> <p>22.4</p> <p>22.5</p>	<p>Next meetings</p> <p>30-31 January 2006, Berlin</p> <p>30-31 March 2006, Nice. Preceding ECCMID meeting</p> <p>12-13 June 2006. Possibly Copenhagen/Malmö</p> <p>11-12 September 2006. Possibly a meeting combined with ICACC</p> <p>20-21 November 2006. Venue to be decided</p>

Summary of ratified minutes of meeting 21-22 November 2005 prepared by DB and GK