EUCAST EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON ANTIMICROBIAL SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING
European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

Summary of minutes of EUCAST Steering Committee Meeting Helsinki, Finland, 19-20 May 2009

Attending

Dr Derek F.J. Brown	DB	Scientific Secretary	United Kingdom
Dr Rafael Cantón	RC	Clinical Data Co-ordinator	Spain
Dr Christian Giske	CG	SRGA	Sweden
Dr Antti Hakanen	AH	EUCAST	Finland
Prof 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
Prof Claude-James Soussy	CS	CA-SFM	France
Dr Arnfinn Sundsfjord	MS	NWGA	Norway
Prof Paul Tulkens	PT	EUCAST	Belgium

AFST subcommittee members (for item 7)

Maiken Cavling Arendrup	Denmark
Manuel Cuenca-Estrella	Spain
Juan Luis Rodriguez-Tudela	Spain (Chair)

EMEA representative

Dr Marco Cavaleri (on 19.05.09)	MC	EMEA Therapeutic Group Leader, Safety and Efficacy of Medicines Pre-authorization Human Unit

1	**Chairman´s welcome**
2	**Minutes of meeting of 16-17 February 2009** With minor corrections, accepted as a correct record.
3	**Matters arising from minutes of 16-17 February 2009** Organism based tables including both MIC and zone breakpoints have been drafted. An explanatory note on ECOFFs for inclusion on the EUCAST website has been drafted. Draft oral cephalosporin breakpoints were revised and the updated table sent for consultation. A separate column for *M. catarrhalis* has been added to breakpoint tables.
4	**New drugs** The current status of a new quinolone, two new glycopeptides, a new diaminopyrimidine and a new cephalosporin was discussed.
5	**Status of EUCAST documents** Current status of rationale documents was reviewed.
6	**Expert rules subcommittee** Revision of rules for version 2 will be completed this year. A journal supplement on expert rules has been drafted.
7	**Antifungal susceptibility testing subcommittee** A joint session was held with the AFST Steering Committee to receive a report on the past year and discuss future activity. It was suggested that the AFST full committee should be made into a national representative group and other interested parties should be formed into a consultation network. Voriconazole breakpoints have been set and a rationale document and technical note published. Breakpoints for posaconazole are close to completion and work on amphotericin B is just starting. A collaborative study is underway to identify the best method for determination of broth dilution MICs of echinocandin agents for yeasts. A document on broth dilution MICs of antifungal agents for non-fermentative yeasts is being prepared. Work on an ISO standard for yeast susceptibility testing is progressing. Publications include susceptibility testing of filamentous fungi, in vitro susceptibility of *A. terreus,* epidemiological cut-offs and cross-resistance to azole drugs in *A. fumigatus,* MIC breakpoints and wild-type distributions, association of fluconazole pharmacodynamics with mortality in patients with Candidaemia and data mining validation of EUCAST fluconazole breakpoints.

8	**Anaerobe subcommittee** A technical note will be produced with a proposed panel of tests and technical suggestions for testing.
9	**Mycobacteria subcommittee** There has been no progress in setting up a subcommittee. It was proposed that beakpoints for any new anti-mycobacterial drugs should be determined by the Steering Committee with the aid of co-opted experts.
10	**EUCAST publications** A paper on the value of ECOFFs is to be prepared.
11	**Breakpoints for less common organisms** More MIC data on *Legionella* spp., *C. difficile* and *H. Pylori* are needed.
12	**Breakpoints for other streptococci** Missing breakpoints were added to breakpoint tables.
13	**ECCMID** The 2009 educational workshop and symposium were successful. EUCAST will make several proposals for ECCMID 2010. EUCAST Postgraduate Educational Workshops for 2010 are being considered.
14	**EUCAST disk diffusion method** Development work is continuing. Establishment of National Antibiotic Committees is to be encouraged and will help in implementation of EUCAST breakpoints and the disk diffusion method.
15	**ECDC** EUCAST did not reply to the ECDC call for tenders for development of a European disk diffusion test as work had already started and will continue with funding from ESCMID.
16	**EMEA** EMEA and EUCAST will continue to interact on any issues that may affect breakpoints.
17	**Oral cephalosporins** The draft breakpoints were reviewed in the light of comments from the recent consultation. Breakpoints will now be released.
18	**Less commonly used agents requiring breakpoints** The list was reviewed and will be prioritised for breakpoint setting.
19	**Review of glycopeptide breakpoints** Details, particularly relating to staphylococci, were again discussed and it was agreed to propose removal of the intermediate category for *S. aureus*. The revised proposal will be sent for a final round of consultation.
20	**Any other business** ***EUCAST recommendations for routine antimicrobial susceptibility testing*** Lists could be made for epidemiological purposes and to meet the requirements of expert rules; but national differences in antibiotic use would make it difficult to propose a list for therapeutic use.
21	**Next meetings** 27-29 September 2009, Leipzig, Germany. 23-24 November 2009, Nice, France. 8-9 February 2010, Brussels, Belgium. 13 April 2010, Vienna, Austria (after ECCMID).

Ratified summary of minutes of meeting 19-20 May 2009. Prepared by DB, GK and RC