

Fifth EUCAST steering committee meeting
Summary of minutes of meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark, 18 November 2003

Attending

Mrs Jenny Andrews	JA	BSAC	United Kingdom
Dr Derek F.J. Brown	DB	Scientific Secretary	United Kingdom
Dr Claude-James Soussy	C-JS	SFM	France
Dr Gunnar Kahlmeter	GK	Chairperson	Sweden
Dr Johan W. Mouton	JM	CRG	The Netherlands
Dr Arne Rodloff	AR	DIN	Germany
Dr Martin Steinbakk	MS	NWGA	Norway

Apologies

Dr Fred Goldstein	FG	SFM	France
Prof Alasdair P. MacGowan	AM	BSAC	United Kingdom
Dr Anders Österlund	AO	SRGA	Sweden
Dr Pavla Urbaskova	PU	EUCAST	Czech Republic
Dr Alkiviadis Vatopoulos	AV	EUCAST	Greece

1	<p>Chairman's welcome and report. The response of industry to distributions via the mailing lists has been mostly supportive. Meetings beyond 2003 will be funded by ESCMID with money obtained through the DG-SANCO grant application.</p>
2	<p>Minutes of meeting of 2 September 2003. accepted as a correct record.</p>
3	<p>Matters arising from minutes of 2 September 2003. GK has sent a supportive letter to EMEA regarding the EMEA guidance note.</p> <p>Declarations of commercial interests have been received from half of the Steering Committee.</p>
4	<p>Quinolone breakpoints. Comments on aspects of the proposed clinical breakpoints were discussed. The roles of epidemiological and clinical breakpoints need to be clarified on the website.</p> <p>Agreed that the levofloxacin non-species related susceptible breakpoint will be set at 1 mg/L.</p> <p>There was further extensive discussion of the levofloxacin and moxifloxacin breakpoints for pneumococci. It was difficult to resolve conflicting arguments and the tentative breakpoints were left at 2/2 and 1/2 respectively.</p> <p>It was agreed to spilt <i>Acinetobacter</i> from <i>Pseudomonas</i> in all EUCAST tables.</p> <p>Ciprofloxacin breakpoints for <i>N. gonorrhoeae</i> and <i>N. meningitidis</i> were both set at $\leq 0.03/0.06$ mg/L as strains with reduced susceptibility were thought likely to fail therapy.</p> <p>Ciprofloxacin breakpoints for <i>H.influenzae</i> were left at $\leq 0.5/0.5$ mg/L as there is no clinical evidence related to strains with reduced susceptibility.</p> <p>It was again noted that it is important to justify decisions on breakpoints.</p>
5	<p>Glycopeptide breakpoints. No changes to current draft.</p>
6	<p>Linezolid breakpoints. No changes to current draft.</p>
7	<p>Aminoglycoside breakpoints. No changes to current draft.</p>
8	<p>Draft breakpoint tables on EUCAST website. Agreed that the tentative breakpoint tables for fluoroquinolones, glycopeptides, linezolid and aminoglycosides would be placed on the EUCAST</p>

- website, and sent to all General Committee members and the industry email lists with a request for comment.
- 9** **Mandate of EUCAST to change existing breakpoints.** In all countries except France the breakpoints are not legally binding, but are professional standards set by national committees. The importance of maintaining the process of harmonisation with the involvement of all national committees was emphasised. It was noted that changes in breakpoints may lead to changes in zone diameter breakpoints in national disc diffusion methods.
- 10** **Finance.** EUCAST had asked for 80% support from DG-SANCO. Only 60% had been offered and alterations to the proposal have been submitted to comply with this.
- 11** **CEN.** A draft microdilution method based on the EUCAST method is being prepared.
- 12** **EMEA.** EUCAST will be meeting with EMEA to discuss the draft procedure for setting breakpoints.
- 13** **EARSS.** Suggestions were made on how fluoroquinolone test procedures for pneumococci may be harmonised across Europe.
- 14** **EUCAST documents.** Intracellular pathogens and Mycobacterial Discussion Documents need updating for publication as Definitive Documents. The terminology document is to be updated and the quality assurance Discussion Document needs to be completed.
- 15** **Breakpoint procedure document.** Is being updated.
- 16** **Any other business**
The EUCAST website was reviewed.
- Suggestions on organisation will be made to the Fungal Methods Subcommittee.
- Changes to the constitution will be necessary to replace the pharmaceutical and device manufacturers representatives with email groups.
- Agreed to begin the process of collecting data for carbapenems and cephalosporins.
- 17** **Next meetings**
3 February 2004, 30 May 2004, 7 September 2004, 23 November 2004

Unratified minutes 30 November 2003
Prepared by DB and GK

EUCAST Steering Committee

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