The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing 2007-2008

EUCAST General Committee

Austria	Prof H Mittermayer
Belgium	Prof J Verhaegen
Bosnia	Dr S Uzunovic-Kamberovic
Bulgaria	Prof K Metodiev
Croatia	Dr A Tambic-Andrasevic
Czech Republic	Dr P Urbaskova
Denmark	Dr N Frimodt-Møller
Estonia	Dr M Ivanova
Finland	Dr A Hakanen
France	Prof L Dubreuil
Germany	Prof B Wiedemann
Greece	Prof A Vatopoulos
Hungary	Dr É Bán
Iceland	Dr K Gustaf Kristinsson
Ireland	Dr M Cormican
Italy	Prof P Varaldo
Latvia	Dr A Balode
Lithuania	Prof A Ambrozaitis
Netherlands	Prof J Degener
Norway	Dr M Steinbakk
Poland	Prof W Hryniewicz
Portugal	Prof J Melo Cristino
Romania	no representative
Russia	Dr O Stetsiouk
Serbia	Dr L Ranin
Slovak Rep	Prof. M Niks
Slovenia	Dr J Kolman
Spain	Dr F Soriano
Sweden	Dr B Olsson-Liljequist
Switzerland	Prof J Bille
Turkey	Dr D Gür
UK	Prof A MacGowan
Yugoslavia	no representative
ISC	Prof P Tulkens
FESCI	Dr D Livermore

Pharmaceutical Industry and Susceptibility Testing Device Manufacturers

These groups are informed of EUCAST activity and consulted via an email network open to all companies with an interest in antimicrobial susceptibility testing

EUCAST structure and finance

EUCAST is a standing ESCMID committee. It was formed in 1996 and restructured at the ECCMID in Milan 2002. It consists of a General Committee, with representatives from all European countries, and is led by an ESCMID-appointed Steering Committee, which includes a Chairman, Scientific Secretary, Clinical Data Coordinator, six National Breakpoint Committee representatives and two representatives of the EUCAST General Committee. Decisions are made by the Steering Committee after consultation with the General Committee.

EUCAST is financed by ESCMID, ECDC (grant) and the National Breakpoint Committees of France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, The Netherlands and The United Kingdom.

EUCAST objectives

EUCAST was set up to standardize susceptibility testing in Europe so that comparable results and interpretations are produced.

Appointments by ESCMID

- Chairholder, Scientific Secretary and Clinical Data Coordinator (3 years)
- National breakpoint committee seats on the steering committee (3 years)
- Two representatives from the EUCAST general committee from countries not otherwise represented on the steering committee (2 years).

Appointments by the European countries

- Each country with an active national breakpoint committee appoints one representative to serve for 2 years (new or confirmed appointments in 2008)
- Countries without representatives may apply to the ESCMID board for a position on the Steering Committee (active national committees only, ie committees with >2 meetings per year, are eligible)

The EUCAST steering committee

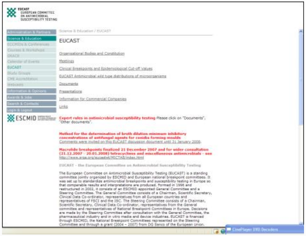
Chairman Gunnar Kahlmeter(2008)
Scientific secretary, Derek Brown (2008)
Clinical Data Coordinator Rafael Canton (2008)
BSAC (The UK), Alasdair MacGowan (2008)
CA-SFM (France), Claude-James Soussy (2008)
CRG (The Netherlands) Johan W. Mouton (2008)
DIN (Germany), Arne Rodloff (2008)
NWGA (Norway), Martin Steinbakk (2008)
SRGA (Sweden), Inga Odenholt (2008)
EUCAST rep 1, Pietro Varaldo (Italy), (2008)
EUCAST rep 2, Waleria Hryniewicz (Poland), (2008)

Questions on EUCAST?

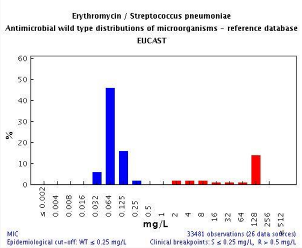
Visit the website www.eucast.org
or e-mail gunnar.kahlmeter@ltkronoberg.se **or** dfjb2@cam.ac.uk

EUCAST websites (http://www.eucast.org)

- Website with EUCAST breakpoints, activities and documents



- Web site for wild type distributions and epidemiological cut-off values (access via http://www.eucast.org).



EUCAST activity 2007-2008:

- Harmonized breakpoints for macrolides, tetracyclines, miscellaneous agents and fluconazole (by EUCAST AFST) agreed by national committees
- Harmonized breakpoints for penicillins close to completion
- EUCAST breakpoints for two new antimicrobials and extended indications for an existing agent close to completion according to the EMEA SOP detailing EUCAST involvement in breakpoint setting in the process for licensing new agents (and two others about to start)
- Continued development of rationale documents providing background data for EUCAST breakpoints
- Publication in CMI of EUCAST definitive documents on susceptibility testing of fermentative yeasts and *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and technical note on fluconazole
- Publication on EUCAST website of EUCAST discussion document on the determination of broth dilution minimum inhibitory concentrations of antifungal agents for conidia forming moulds
- EUCAST document on expert rules in susceptibility testing completed
- SOP on harmonisation of European breakpoints for antimicrobial susceptibility testing set by EMEA/CHMP and EUCAST updated
- EUCAST proposal in answer to ECDC "Call for Proposals" on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing, April 2008
- Collaboration with European groups continued
- Updated EUCAST slideshow available on EUCAST website
- Wild type MIC distribution database further developed and expanded

EUCAST publications

1. European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. (2000). Terminology relating to methods for the determination of susceptibility of bacteria to antimicrobial agents. EUCAST Definitive Document E.Def 1.2. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **6**, 503-8.
2. European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. (2000). Determination of antimicrobial susceptibility test breakpoints. EUCAST Definitive Document E.Def 2.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **6**, 570-2.
3. European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. (2000). Determination of minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) of antibacterial agents by agar dilution. EUCAST Definitive Document E.Def 3.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **6**, 509-15.
4. European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. (2001). Linezolid breakpoints. EUCAST Definitive Document E.Def 4.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **7**, 283-4.
5. European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. (2003). Determination of minimum inhibitory concentrations (MICs) of antibacterial agents by broth microdilution. EUCAST Discussion Document E.Def 5.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **9** (issue 7 insert), 1-10.
6. Ridgway, G.L., Bébéar, C., Bébéar, C.M, Felmingham, D., Maurin, M., Pechère, J.C. *et al.* (2001). Antimicrobial susceptibility testing of intracellular and cell-associated pathogens. EUCAST Discussion Document E.Dis 6.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **7** (issue 12 insert), 1-10.
7. Drobniewski, F. (2002). Antimicrobial susceptibility testing of *Mycobacterium* tuberculosis. EUCAST Discussion Document E.Dis 8.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **8** (issue 10 insert), 1-10.
8. Rodriguez-Tudela, J.L., Barchiesi, F., Bille, J., Chryssanthou, E., Cuenca-Estrella, M., Denning, D. *et al.* (2004). Method for the determination of minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) by broth microdilution of fermentative yeasts. EUCAST Discussion Document E.Dis 7.1. *Clin Microbiol Infect* **9** (issue 8 insert), 1-8.
9. Kahlmeter, G., Brown, D.F.J., Goldstein, F.W., MacGowan, A.P., Mouton, J., Österlund, A., Rodloff, A. Steinbakk, M. Urbaskova, P. and Vatopoulos, A. (2003) European harmonisation of MIC breakpoints for antimicrobial susceptibility testing of bacteria. *J Antimicrob Chemother* **52**, 145-8.
10. Kahlmeter, G. and Brown, D.F.J. (2004) Harmonisation of antimicrobial breakpoints in Europe – can it be achieved? *Clin Microbiol News*, **26**, 187-192.
11. Kahlmeter G. (2005) European breakpoints for antimicrobial susceptibility testing of bacteria and fungi. *Infect Dis Rev Series*, 50-57.
12. The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) Steering Committee (2006) EUCAST Technical Note on Tigecycline. *Clin Microbiol Infect*; **12**: 1147-1149.
13. Chryssanthou E and Cuenca-Estrella M (2006) Comparison of the EUCAST-AFST broth dilution method with the CLSI reference broth dilution method (M38-A) for susceptibility testing of posaconazole and voriconazole against *Aspergillus* spp. *Clin Microbiol Infect*; **12**: 901-904.
14. Kahlmeter G, Brown DFJ, Goldstein FW, *et al.* (2006) European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) technical notes on antimicrobial susceptibility testing. *Clin Microbiol Infect;* **12**: 501-503.
15. The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) Steering Committee (2006). EUCAST technical note on daptomycin. *Clin Microbiol Infect;* **12**: 599-601.
16. The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) Steering Committee (2006). EUCAST technical note on linezolid. *Clin Microbiol Infect;* **12**: 1243-1245.
17. Drobniewski F., Rüsch-Gerdes S., Hoffner S. (2007) Antimicrobial susceptibility testing of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (EUCAST document E.DEF 8.1) - Report of the Subcommittee on Antimicrobial Testing of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* of the European Committee for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID). *Clin Microbiol Infect;* **13**: 1144-56.
18. Subcommittee on Antifungal Susceptibility Testing (AFST) of the ESCMID European Committee for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) (2008) EUCAST Definitive Document E.DEF 7.1: method for the determination of broth dilution of antifungal agents for fermentative yeasts. *Clin Microbiol Infect;* **14**: 398-405.
19. The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) Steering Committee (2008). EUCAST technical note on fluconazole. *Clin Microbiol Infect;* **14**: 193-195.