Minutes EUCAST Annual General Sub-Committee Meeting, ECCMID 2019

Sunday 14th April 16:00 – 18:00
Room D201/202, RAI, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

1. **Present:** Sevtap Arikan (Turkey), Maiken Arendrup (Denmark, SC), Francesco Barchiesi (Italy), Rafael Cantón (EUCAST-SC), Mariana Castanheira (USA), Yrina Codela, Eric Dannaoui (France), Boissinot Dominique, Joshua Freeman, Nathalie Friberg (Finland), Jesus Guinea (Spain, SC), Helle Jarv (Estonia), Cornelia Lass-Florl (Austria), Nikolai Klimko (Russia), Joseph Meletiadis (Greece, SC), Johan Mouton (The Netherlands, SC), Konrad Muehlethaler (Switzerland), Tom Rogers (Ireland).

   **Apologies were received from** Petr Hamal (Czech Republic), Tadeja Matos (Slovenia), Olivier Lortholary (France), Katrien Lagrou (Belgium, SC), Cecilie Torp Andersen (Norway).

2. **Minutes of EUCAST AFST General Sub-Committee Meeting, Madrid 2018:** The minutes were accepted as true and correct.

3. **EUCAST AFST General Sub-Committee members 2017/2018:** The current EUCAST AFST General Committee (or subcommittee) membership is as follows:

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<th>Representative</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cornelia Lass-Florl</td>
<td>Austria</td>
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<td>Katrien Lagrou</td>
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<td>Bulgaria</td>
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<td>Cyprus</td>
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<td>Petr Hamal (NAC)</td>
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<td>Maiken Cavling Arendrup (Chair, SC)</td>
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<td>Helle Järv</td>
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<td>Nathalie Friberg</td>
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<td>Olivier Lortholary</td>
<td>France</td>
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<td>Oliver Kurzai</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Aristeia Velegraki</td>
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<td>Joseph Meletiadis (Data Manager, SC)</td>
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<td>Tom Rogers</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>Mihai Mares (NAC)</td>
<td>Romania</td>
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EUCAST AFST Steering Committee: MC Arendrup (chair), J Guinea (secretary), J Meletiadis (data coordinator), J Mouton (EUCAST SC rep), M Mares & F Barchiesi (NAC reps)
Nikolay Klimko  
Russia

Tadeja Matos  
Slovakia

Jesus Guinea (Secretary, SC)  
Spain

Erja Chryssanthou  
Sweden

Konrad Muehliethaler  
The Netherlands

Johan Mouton (EUCAST SC Representative, SC)  
The Netherlands

Sevtap Arikan-Akdagli  
Turkey

Caroline Moore  
United Kingdom

Mariana Castanheira (USCAST Representative)  
USA

4. Chairman’s report

A summary of the chairman’s report is found below.

Meetings

The general committee meets annually at ECCMID (the last meeting took place during ECCMID 2018). The steering committee met 3 times over the past year.

Organisational

- Jesús Guinea’s three-year term ends ECCMID 2019 and Maiken Cavling Arendrup three-year term ends ECCMID 2020, both accept reappointment (and both have been re-appointed by EUCAST-SC after the meeting).
- Francesco Barchiesi steps down from the SC this term and a NAC vacant position is available for the 2019-2021 term. Nathalie Friberg has expressed her interest in the position. There were no other candidates proposed. Nathalie Friberg has subsequently been appointed by the EUCAST steering committee as new AFST NAC representative.
- No changes in the laboratories network. The updated list can be found at http://www.eucast.org/organization/network_laboratories/

Methods and QC

- **Azole-resistance agar screening method.** EUCAST procedure document based on agar screening of azole resistance in *Aspergillus* is now published in CMI.
- **Alternative methods for echinocandin vs. *Aspergillus* testing.** Microdilution with Visual vs. Spec vs. XTT endpoint; and echinocandin-containing agar screening (morphology endpoint). XTT endpoint was clearer with lower inoculum. Agar screening promising.
  - Comment raised: A proven echinocandin-resistant *A. fumigatus* strain may be suitable as a quality control (Mariana Castanheira).
  - Response: Agree but pending on permission to share
• Plastic tray study – impact on MICs. Multicentre study testing *Candida* and *Aspergillus* isolates (including wild type and non-wild type isolates). No further progress since the last meeting. Manuscript under preparation.

• **Standardization of EUCAST methodology for testing the antifungal susceptibility of dermatophytes.** Mainly motivated by the increasing rate of terbinafine resistant isolates of *T. rubrum* in Europe and *T. interdigitale* in Asia. Ongoing study. Preliminary data from some laboratories showed promising.

• **QC table.** The revised document is now available at the website. Formatted and harmonized according to the documents for antibacterials; a new one-page overview table is added.

**Rationale Documents and Breakpoints**

• Revised and new EUCAST definitions. New “I” category implies susceptibility as long as higher exposure is assured. A new category “Area of technical uncertainty” (ATU) has been introduced. These new “I” definition and “ATU” category necessitate review of current “Intermediate” categories, which is ongoing. Once finalized and implemented into the Rational Documents and Breakpoints the updated documents will be circulated for comments within the AFST subcommittee, in the EUCAST SC and finally posted on eu-cast.org for global consultation.

**Actions:** Collect new data on fluconazole MICs against *C. glabrata* to check if the ECOFF of 32 mg/L or 16 mg/L is more appropriate is correct (Maiken Arendrup, Joseph Meletiadis, Johan Mouton, Jesús Guinea, and Mariana Castanheira will send data, invite others to send).

• New E.Def (E.Def 10.1): Azole agar resistance screening in *A. fumigatus* is now available (http://www.eucast.org/astoffungi/methodsinantifungalsusceptibilitytesting/susceptibility_testing_of_moulds/).

• **Amphotericin B Rational Document revision.** Document almost finished. Changes of breakpoint for *A. fumigatus, A. niger*, and *C. neoformans*.

**Publications**

• The following manuscript have been published during the past term:

  How to: EUCAST recommendations on the screening procedure E.Def 10.1 for the detection of azole resistance in *Aspergillus fumigatus* isolates using four-well azole-containing agar plates.

  Guinea J, Verweij PE, Meletiadis J, Mouton JW, Barchiesi F, Arendrup MC; Subcommittee on Antifungal Susceptibility Testing (AFST) of the ESCMID European Committee for Anti-

Website updates (www.eucast.org and http://mic.eucast.org/Eucast2/)
- No significant changes during the last term.

Summary of Ongoing activities
- Amphotericin B RD 2.0 is currently undergoing revision and it will have a merged format similar to the Posaconazole 2.0 and Voriconazole 2.0.
- Revision of the breakpoint table according to the new “I” definition.
- In vitro PK/PD model to investigate the role of posaconazole and voriconazole as an appropriate target against C. glabrata and C. krusei.
- Complete of the study of plastic composition and impact on the MICs.
- Dermatophyte testing standardisation following EUCAST principles.

5. Any other business
Document describing molecular mechanisms of resistance (Coordinated by Tom Rogers). Based upon a literature review; other participants (Paul Verweij; Eric Dannaoui, Mariana Castanheira, Katrien Lagrou and Maiken Cavling Arendrup).

6. Next meeting
The next meeting of the AFST General Committee will be at the 30th ECCMID, 13 – 16 April 2020, Paris, France.