Summary of minutes of EUCAST Steering Committee Meeting  
Berlin, Germany, 30 April – 1 May 2013

Attending
Dr Petra Apfalter PA EUCAST General Committee Austria
Dr Derek F.J. Brown DB Scientific Secretary United Kingdom
Dr Rafael Cantón RC Chairperson Spain
Dr Christian Giske CG SRGA Sweden
Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter GK Clinical Data Co-ordinator Sweden
Prof Alasdaipir A. MacGowan AM BSAC United Kingdom
Prof Luis Martinez-Martinez LM EUCAST General Committee Spain
Prof Johan W. Mouton JM CRG The Netherlands
Dr Robert Skov RS EUCAST General Committee Denmark
Dr Martin Steinbakk MS NWGA Norway

Apologies
Prof Claude-James Soussy CS CA-SFM France

Visiting General Committee members
Prof Sören Gatermann SG NAC representative Germany
Prof John Turnidge JT NAC representative Australia

Present on 30 April 2013
Dr Maiken Arendrup MA AFST Subcommittee Chair Denmark
Dr François Jehl CA-SFM France

Present on 1 May 2013
Dr Radu Botgros RB EMA United Kingdom

Present for item 19
Dr Roland Grunow Robert Koch Institut, Berlin Germany
Dr Sabine Schmoldt Bundeswehr Institute of Microbiology, Central Diagnostic Unit Germany

1 Chairman’s welcome Dr François Jehl introduced himself as the future Chair of the CA-SFM. The major contribution of CS to the Steering Committee was acknowledged. PA was also thanked for her enthusiastic support of EUCAST as her term of office as General Committee representative is completed. SG and JT were welcomed as the first “visiting” General Committee representatives. SG will continue to attend meetings for the next two years as a General Committee representative.

2 Minutes of meeting of 4-5 February 2013 With minor corrections the minutes were accepted as a correct record.

3 Matters arising from minutes of 4-5 February 2013 (items not covered by agenda)
MIC distributions for N. gonorrhoeae: Data are being collected.

Cefoxitin disk diffusion test for detection of mecA-mediated resistance in S. pseudintermedius: Guidelines for interpretation will be included in breakpoint tables version 4.0.

Selection of colonies for susceptibility testing: The inoculum preparation guideline in the slideshow has been updated in line with the method manual.

Compliance of manufacturers tables on website: An updated version is on the website.

4 New agents
New antimycobacterial agent: No further action is required from EUCAST at present.

New antimycobacterial agent 2: No further action is required from EUCAST at present. Discussions on breakpoints were continued.

New cephalosporin agent: Discussions on breakpoints were continued.

Review of carbapenem breakpoints: Following issues with one agent, all carbapenem breakpoints are being reviewed.
β-lactamase inhibitor combinations: Preliminary presentations of several agents are expected in the near future.

New glycopeptide agent: A preliminary presentation will be given at a meeting later this year.

5 EUCAST rationale documents

The ceftaroline rationale document is close to completion.

6 Subcommittees

Antifungal susceptibility testing: MA presented a summary of AFST activities over the past year. AFST General Committee membership will be reviewed. JM will attend future AFST meetings.

Detection of resistance mechanisms of clinical and/or epidemiological importance: An updated version of the document was reviewed. As there have been multiple changes there will be a further wide consultation.

7 Breakpoint issues

Topical agents: A revised version of the proposals for breakpoints will be released for consultation.

Fluoroquinolones and enterococci from UTI: A proposal for ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin breakpoints has been released for wide consultation.

*Neisseria meningitidis*: Discussions continue on issues related to benzylpenicillin and ciprofloxacin breakpoints.

Enterobacteriaceae and amoxicillin-clavulanate breakpoints for UTI: A discussion document is to be produced.

*Acinetobacter* spp. and sulbactam: A rationale document is being drafted.

Colistin breakpoints: EUCAST representatives will attend a forthcoming international conference on polymyxins in Prato, Italy.

Gentamicin breakpoints for *S. aureus*: Data for review are being prepared.

Cefuroxime axetil and *H. influenzae*: The Australian NAC will lodge an exception to the breakpoints to cover their national situation.

Trimethoprim and Enterobacteriaceae: Clinical data UTI caused by for *M. morganii* and *P. mirabilis* are to be examined.

Aminoglycosides and 1st/2nd generation cephalosporins for *Salmonella* and *Shigella*: Data are needed to support the suggestion that these agents should not be used for iv treatment of systemic infections with *Salmonella* and *Shigella*.

Fluoroquinolones and *Salmonella*: Problems with susceptibility testing continue to be investigated.

*Yersinia enterocolitica*: Clinical outcome data are being examined.

Detection of dissociated macrolide resistance with the D test: A technical note on testing is being drafted, together with recommendations on reporting.

Cefazolin and Enterobacteriaceae: The Australian NAC will lodge an exception to the breakpoints to cover their national situation.

Fluoxacillin and group B streptococci: As isoxazolylpenicillin MICs for group B streptococci are higher than for other β-haemolytic streptococci it is proposed that a note is included in breakpoint tables excluding group B streptococci for isoxazolylpenicillins.

8 Organisms without EUCAST breakpoints

*Legionella* spp.: Discussions on breakpoints are continuing.

*Burkholderia cepacia*: A guidance note on susceptibility testing is being prepared.
Actinomyces spp.: A guidance note on susceptibility testing is being prepared.

Corynebacterium spp.: Breakpoint proposals will be released for general consultation.

Pseudomonas spp. other than P. aeruginosa: Work has been postponed due to other priorities.

Other organisms: Work is in progress and results will be reported when available.

**EUCAST methods**

Disk diffusion tests for anaerobes: Methods are being investigated.

Disk diffusion tests for *N. gonorrhoeae*: Preliminary testing indicate problems with media. Further work is being planned.

Disk diffusion tests for new inhibitor combinations: Early studies are in progress.

Disk diffusion tests for ceftaroline: Studies are underway on groups other than staphylococci.

Fixed inhibitor concentrations in combinations of amoxicillin-clavulanic acid and ampicillin-sulbactam: Collaborative studies are underway to establish MIC-zone diameter correlations with fixed concentrations (clavulanic acid 2 mg/L and sulbactam 4 mg/L) of the inhibitor.

Control ranges for *H. influenzae* NCTC 8468: Collaborative studies are underway to establish control ranges for all relevant agents.

Method document updates: Updated versions of several documents are now on the website.

**Implementation of EUCAST breakpoints**

Monitoring progress on implementation: Data from the December 2012 survey are almost complete. In UKNEQAS EQA 73% participants now follow EUCAST or EUCAST-based guidelines.

Commercial use of EUCAST documents and website data: A copyright statement has been added to the website as below. This will also appear in EUCAST documents.

> The copyright of all documents and data published on the EUCAST website remains with EUCAST. All are freely available for re-use if reference to the EUCAST website is given and documents and data are not resold. Any secondary publication of the data must be referenced with the declaration that "These data have (or this document has) been produced in part under ECDC service contracts and made available at no cost by EUCAST and can be accessed freely on the EUCAST website [www.eucast.org](http://www.eucast.org). EUCAST recommendations are frequently updated and the latest versions are available at [www.eucast.org](http://www.eucast.org)."

**EUCAST website**

Multiple updates to the website were noted.

**Publications and presentations**

Paper explaining ECOFFs: A draft is still being worked on.

Paper on reporting as found for Enterobacteriaceae: A draft is to be prepared.

Paper on the EUCAST disk diffusion method: There are minor issues to resolve before submission.

List of EUCAST presentations: The list of presentations needs continual update.

Paper on use of EUCAST breakpoints: A paper will be prepared.

EUCAST Wikipedia entry: A possible inaccurate entry will be reviewed.

**NACs**

The first two visiting representatives on the Steering Committee were present at this meeting. Sören Gatermann (Germany) has been appointed by ESCMID to the vacant General Committee seat on the Steering Committee for two years from May 2013.

**EUCAST SOPs**
SOP 1.1 (setting breakpoints for new agents) has been revised and will be released on the website. SOP 2.0 (harmonisation of breakpoints for existing agents) is due to be revised. SOP 6.0 (EUCAST websites) has been completed and will be released on the website.

15 **ESCMID**
EUCAST sessions at ECCMID Berlin 2013 were successful and well attended. Proposals for ECCMID Barcelona 2014 will be submitted this month.

A Postgraduate Educational Workshop, to be held in Linz, Austria, will be proposed for 2014.

16 **EMA**
EUCAST will continue to use the EMA declaration of interest form.

17 **CLSI**
It was agreed that joint development of guidelines for manufacturers on PK/PD data provided by manufacturers should be in response to an invitation from EMA and FDA in order to ensure that guidelines are acceptable to these statutory authorities.

18 **ECDC**
No new information.

19 **Susceptibility testing of highly pathogenic organisms**
Work on susceptibility testing of highly pathogenic organisms was presented by the QUANDHIP group (Joint Action on Quality Assurance Exercises and Networking on the Detection of Highly Infectious Pathogens). EUCAST would be interested in reviewing breakpoints if QUANDHIP formally asks EUCAST to do so.

20 **ISO standard for MH agar**
A draft version is about to be released for vote by National Standards Organisations. There were concerns that the document does not include a target for medium depth.

21 **Notes for new Steering Committee members**
Notes have been drafted.

22 **Any other business**
None

23 **Next meetings**
8-9 July 2013 Copenhagen, Denmark.
25-26 November 2013, Brussels, Belgium.
10-11 February 2014, Munich, Germany.
13-14 May 2014, Barcelona, Spain (immediately following ECCMID).
15-16 September 2014, Linz, Austria (before ESCMID Postgraduate Workshop).

Ratified summary of minutes of meeting 30 April – 1 May 2013. Prepared by DB, RC and GK