Chairman’s welcome

This is the 50th meeting of the Steering Committee. RH was present as BSAC representative in place of AM. Erika Matuschek was present for discussions on breakpoint tables and Radu Botgros (EMA) for items related to new antimicrobial agents. Marc Struelens, Domenique Monnet and Ole Heuer represented ECDC for discussion of issues of particular interest to ECDC. Company representatives were present for presentations of their new agents.

Minutes of meeting of 8-9 July 2013

With minor corrections the minutes were accepted as a correct record.

Matters arising from minutes of 8-9 July 2013 (items not covered by agenda)

MIC distributions for N. gonorrhoeae from the Netherlands have been provided.

The Australian NAC will produce exception notes on cefuroxime axetil for H. influenzae and cefazolin for Enterobacteriaceae.

New agents

Breakpoint proposals for two new antimycobacterial agents and a cephalosporin are completed. Proposed revised breakpoints for doripenem will be released for wide consultation.

EUCAST rationale documents

A document for ceftaroline is close to completion. Several documents need to be updated and a revised format is being considered.

Subcommittees

New or replacement national representatives are being sought for the Antifungal Susceptibility Testing Subcommittee.

Comments on the second consultation of the guidelines for detection of resistance mechanisms of clinical and/or epidemiological importance were discussed.

Breakpoint issues

The latest version of the breakpoint tables version 4.0 was reviewed.

Proposed amoxicillin-clavulanic acid breakpoints for Enterobacteriaceae from UTI will be released for wide consultation. MIC distribution data with a fixed 2 mg/L clavulanic acid are required.

A majority opinion of those at the last CLSI meeting was in favour of adding polysorbate 80 to media for broth microdilution testing of colistin but no definite decision was made pending further work.

There is no published clinical evidence for a note in breakpoint tables that aminoglycosides and 1st/2nd generation cephalosporins should not be used against Salmonella and Shigella.

Detection and reporting of dissociated macrolide resistance was discussed.

Following wide consultation, a proposal to add a note to breakpoint tables excluding S. agalactiae
for flucloxacillin and other isoxazolylpenicillins was agreed.

Following wide consultation on breakpoints for topical agents, the main issue is whether clinical breakpoints instead of ECOFFs are appropriate for topical agents that are also used systemically. Discussions are continuing regarding how to deal with breakpoints for topical agents.

Inclusion of the large number of expert rules on intrinsic resistance in breakpoints tables is impractical. It is questioned whether rules based solely on in vitro observations should be in the breakpoint tables. However, it would be appropriate to include rules supported by clinical data.

Photographs in breakpoint tables and the reading guide will be replaced if better versions are produced.

It was agreed not to remove current breakpoints for penicillins and *N. gonorrhoeae* because penicillins are still used in some remote communities, *N. gonorrhoeae* infection does not relate only to gonorrhoea and testing may be included for epidemiological purposes.

Guidelines for manufacturers on data required for new antmycobacterial agents may be produced.

### Organisms without EUCAST breakpoints

Breakpoints for *Legionella* spp. continue to be discussed.

A guidance note on *Burkholderia cepacia* has been released on the EUCAST website.

Recommendations for testing *Actinomyces* spp. are being produced.

Following wide consultation, breakpoints for *Corynebacterium* spp. were agreed other than trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, where the need for breakpoints was questioned.

Breakpoints for *P. aeruginosa* are generally applicable to other *Pseudomonas* species. Minor modifications to disk diffusion breakpoints may be necessary. For trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole the correlation of zone diameters to MICs is poor and further consideration is required.

### EUCAST methods

Development of disk diffusion for anaerobes and *N. gonorrhoeae* is ongoing.

### Implementation of EUCAST breakpoints

Only two countries have not responded to the 2013 questionnaire on implementation.

QC data for amoxicillin-clavulanic acid and ampicillin-sulbactam with fixed inhibitor concentration were reviewed and an extended study will be undertaken in three laboratories.

### EUCAST MIC and zone diameter distribution website

Clinical breakpoints will be removed from the MIC and zone diameter website as they are available elsewhere. The colour coding in histograms will be changed to make them clearer.

### Publications and presentations

Papers explaining ECOFFs and reporting as found for Enterobacteriaceae are being prepared. A paper on development of the EUCAST disk diffusion method has been accepted for publication in CMI and a paper on calibration and validation has been submitted for publication in CMI. A paper on uptake of EUCAST breakpoints has been drafted. Available Powerpoint presentations are listed and downloadable from the EUCAST website.

### NACs

The acceptance of a USA NAC (USCAST) by EUCAST has been acknowledged by the USCAST chairman, Professor Ron Jones.

### EUCAST SOPs

Revised versions 2.1 of the SOP on harmonisation of breakpoints for existing agents, and 4.1 of the SOP on EUCAST committees have been released on the EUCAST website. SOPs on EUCAST handling of minutes and update and format of documents are being prepared.

### ESCMID

For ECCMID Barcelona 2014, a 4 h EUCAST educational workshop and a Meet the Experts session on EUCAST breakpoints and methods have been approved.

### EMA

Formal preliminary presentations of new agents to Steering Committee should always be...
given after submission of the MAA to EMA so that EMA rapporteurs and other EMA representatives are able to attend if they wish. Revision of the EMA SOP on the relationship of EMA and EUCAST in setting breakpoints is in progress.

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<th>CLSI</th>
<th>No new information.</th>
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18 **ECDC** The current Steering Committee meeting was attended by representatives from ECDC in order to discuss topics of particular interest to ECDC. In addition to items covered elsewhere in the agenda it was noted that update of the increasing number of EUCAST documents was becoming a significant workload; interaction of EUCAST with Euro-GASP on *N. gonorrhoeae* is important; as part of the TAFAR initiative proposals have been made for an “International MIC distributions” website based on the existing EUCAST MIC distribution website; and details of EUCAST contracts were discussed.

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<tr>
<th>New glycopeptide agent</th>
<th>A preliminary presentation was given by the company.</th>
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<tr>
<td>New tetracycline agent</td>
<td>A preliminary presentation was given by the company.</td>
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<th>Any other business</th>
<th>None.</th>
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22 **Next meetings**
- 25-26 November 2013, Brussels, Belgium.
- 10-11 February 2014, Dusseldorf, Germany.
- 13-14 May 2014, Barcelona, Spain.
- 7-8 July 2014, Stockholm, Sweden.
- 15-16 September 2014, Linz, Austria.

Ratified summary of minutes of meeting 8-9 July 2013. Prepared by DB, RC and GK