Summary of minutes of EUCAST Steering Committee Meeting  
Leuven, Belgium, 16-17 February 2015

Attending
Dr Derek F.J. Brown  DB  Scientific Secretary  United Kingdom
Dr Rafael Cantón RC  Chairperson  Spain
Prof Luc Dubreuil LD  CA-SFM  France
Dr Christian Giske CG  SRGA  Sweden
Prof Gunnar Kahlmeter GK  Clinical Data Co-ordinator  Sweden
Dr P. Christoffer Lindemann CL  NWGA  Norway
Prof Johan W. Mouton JM  CRG  The Netherlands
Prof Sören Gatermann SG  EUCAST General Committee  Germany
Dr Iztok Štrumbelj IS  EUCAST General Committee  Slovenia
Prof Jan Verhagen JV  EUCAST General Committee  Belgium

Apologies
Dr François Jehl FJ  CA-SFM  France
Prof Alasdair P. MacGowan AM  BSAC  United Kingdom

Visiting GC members:
Prof Ron Jones RJ  EUCAST General Committee  USA

Chairman’s welcome
CL is the new representative of NWGA. LD was thanked for his significant contribution to the Steering Committee as representative from CA-SFM. LD will be replaced by FJ and Gerard Lina. RJ was present as visiting member from the General Committee.

Minutes of meeting of 10-11 November 2014
Accepted with one modification.

Matters arising from minutes of 10-11 November 2014 (items not covered by agenda)
A control for β-lactamase inhibitors is now included in routine disk diffusion QC tests.

New agents
Breakpoint issues related to new oxazolidinone, a β-lactam-β-lactamase inhibitor combination and glycopeptide agents were discussed.

EUCAST rationale documents
Outstanding documents are in various stages of development.

Subcommittees
Antifungal susceptibility testing: No new information.
Whole genome sequencing (WGS): The remit for a subcommittee was agreed.
Veterinary subcommittee on antimicrobial susceptibility testing: The remit, background and subcommittee membership is detailed on the EUCAST website.

Breakpoint issues
Breakpoint tables version 5.0 have been released.
Definition of the intermediate category is being revised in line with current EUCAST practice, which does not include use of the intermediate category as a buffer zone.
Breakpoint table comments when high dose therapy is recommended are slightly inconsistent in format and will be revised.
Breakpoint table comments when resistance is rare were reviewed to ensure that they remain appropriate.
Issues in the development of recommendations on methods for susceptibility testing of *N. gonorrhoeae* are still being worked on.

Sulbactam MIC distributions for *Acinetobacter* spp are still being sought.
The joint EUCAST-CLSI review of colistin breakpoints and susceptibility testing methods is continuing.
Review of carbapenem breakpoints is in progress.

An expert rules review is in progress and the presentation format is also being assessed.

The report of a 2014 EUCAST-ESGMYC workshop on guidelines for manufacturers on data required for new antymycobacterial agents is being prepared.

A guidance note is being drafted giving the background for the IE designation of daptomycin breakpoints for enterococci.

A proposal for revised tigecycline breakpoints for Enterobacteriaceae is being prepared.

A proposal for nitroxoline breakpoints for Enterobacteriaceae in UTI is being prepared.

Data for assessment of breakpoints for spiramycin and temocillin are being collected.

A list of antimicrobial agents, with indication of whether EUCAST breakpoints are available, and if not the reason for the omission is being developed.

A review of fluoroquinolone breakpoints is in progress.

The breakpoint table comment that the presence of the mecA gene correlates with an oxacillin MIC >0.25 mg/L for coagulase-negative staphylococci is to be removed as the reliability is questioned and the EUCAST recommendation is to test cefoxitin.

It was noted that the clinical importance of inducible clindamycin resistance in combination treatment of severe S. pyogenes infections is not known.

8 Organisms without EUCAST breakpoints No new information.

9 EUCAST methods

Validation files, the disk diffusion manual, slide show and QC tables have been updated.

The EUCAST Laboratory Network for fungi now includes eight laboratories and that for bacteria includes 11 laboratories.

For Kingella kingae there is good growth on MH-F agar and in MH-F broth and good correlation between inhibition zone diameters and MICs.

For fosfomycin susceptibility testing there are problems with reproducibility for all methods.

Methods and wild type distributions are being established for Aerococcus spp.

MIC-zone diameter correlation studies are underway for temocillin and nitroxoline.

Zone diameter breakpoints for short incubation times are being investigated.

Development of pefloxacin disk diffusion tests for detection of low-level fluoroquinolone resistance in Enterobacteriaceae is continuing.

WHO are producing a video on the disk diffusion method and EUCAST support this initiative.

10 Implementation of EUCAST breakpoints Uptake maps are being updated.

11 EUCAST websites A section with all open consultations and responses is to be drafted and website usage statistics are to be included on the website. The subcommittee section will be updated.

12 Publications and presentations A paper on uptake of EUCAST breakpoints has now been published in Euro Surveillance.

13 NACs Extensive activities of the US NAC were noted.
14 EUCAST SOPs The SOP on revision of breakpoints (SOP 3.0) will be updated to cover revised consultation procedures.

15 ESCMID A list of EUCAST activities at ECCMID 2015 will be produced.

16 EMA The revised EMA-EUCAST SOP is expected soon.

17 ECDC A new call for tender for EUCAST services is yet to be released.

18 CLSI The M23 document on development of testing criteria is being updated.

19 Any other business None.

20 Next meetings
28-29 April 2015, Copenhagen, Denmark (immediately following ECCMID).
13-14 July 2015, Windsor, UK
7-8 September 2015, Stockholm, Sweden (to be confirmed)
9-10 November, 2015, venue to be decided
8-9 February 2016, venue to be decided

Ratified summary of minutes of meeting 16-17 February 2015. Prepared by DB, RC and GK