

Current options and strategies for  
the treatment of drug resistant  
Gram negative in India

Dr Ram Gopalakrishnan

# Differences between western world & India

	Western world	India
<b>Common Isolates</b>	<b>Gram +ves</b>	<b>Gram -ves</b>
<b>ESBL &amp; CR prevalence in gram –ves</b>	<b>Much less</b>	<b>Very high</b>
<b>Prevalence of resistance in last few years</b>	<b>Slow increase</b>	<b>Rapidly increasing</b>
<b>Infection control</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Not optimal</b>
<b>Generics</b>	<b>Very few</b>	<b>Many, quality unclear</b>
<b>Restriction of antibiotic prescription</b>	<b>Strict</b>	<b>No control</b>

**Guidelines made by western world keeping their issues in mind may not suitable for India<sup>1</sup>**

# The Indian scenario

- Capital of Gram negative resistance
- Poor to absent infection control but burgeoning private healthcare industry with technological advances such as transplants
- Newer drugs available abroad take time to come
- What is available is often not affordable
- Irrational combinations abound due to poor regulatory control
- Antibiotic pipeline empty

# What I shall cover

- ESBL producing Enterobacteriaceae
- CR-Pseudomonas (CRPa)
- CR-Acinetobacter (CRAb)
- CR Enterobacteriaceae (CRE)
- Colistin and carbapenem resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CCRE)

## Classification Schema of $\beta$ -Lactamase Genes

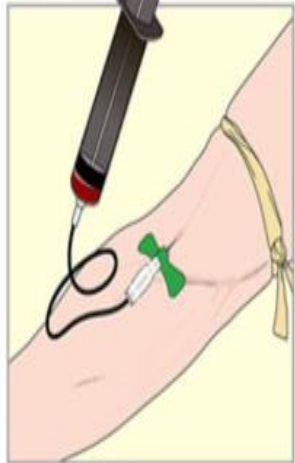
Ambler Classification	Bush/Jacoby Classification	Notable Enzyme Types
Class A	2a, 2b, 2be, 2br, 2ber, 2c, 2ce, 2e, 2f	ESBLs—TEM, SHV, CTX-M, PER Carbapenemases—KPC
Class B	3a, 3b	Carbapenemases—IMP, VIM, NDM
Class C	1, 1e	Cephalosporinases—AmpC
Class D	2d, 2de, 2df	ESBLs—OXA Carbapenemases—OXA

# Principles in treatment of MDROs

## Distinguish colonization from infection

- + Determine sensitivity ASAP using molecular tests directly from blood cultures
- + First dose supremacy is important
- + Know the exact molecular mechanism of resistance and exact MICs
- + Use standard antibiotics with increased doses, so PK/PD targets are still achieved
- + Use nonstandard antibiotics for which resistance has not yet occurred
- + Use combination therapy with antibiotics
- + Use adjunctive therapies (surgery, reversal of immunosuppression)

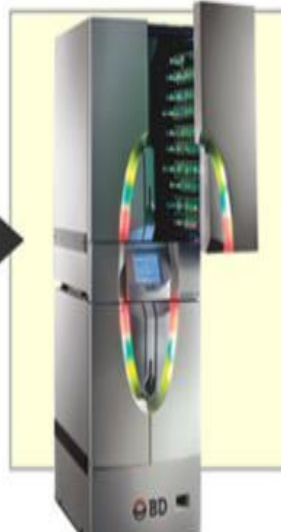
Blood collection



Inoculation of blood into blood culture bottles; transportation to laboratory; loading onto blood culture instrument



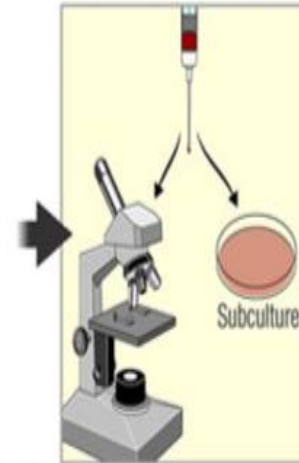
Removal of positive bottles from blood culture instrument (when detected); removal of negative bottles from blood culture instrument (5 days)



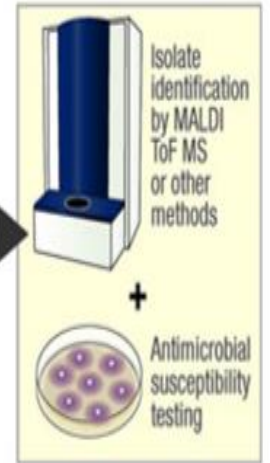
Removal of blood culture broth from positive blood culture bottle



Gram stain and subculture (for identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing)



Identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing



# Molecular diagnosis of BSIs

- Meta-analysis: mortality risk significantly lower with mRDT than with conventional microbiology methods [OR] **0.66**.
- with antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) (OR, 0.64)
- number needed to treat: 20
- Time to effective therapy decreased by –5.03 hours
- aLOS decreased by –2.48 days
  
- mRDT should be considered as part of the standard of care in patients with BSIs



# Rapid ID once blood culture flags identifies organism same day

- **MALDI-TOF** direct from blood culture bottle
  - Better for GNB than GPC
  - Can do on culture plate after 4-6 h incubation
- Rapid Multiplex PCR
  - Verigene GPC/GNB/yeast
  - **FilmArray** Blood Culture ID Panel
    - identifies 19 bacteria, 5 yeast, 3 resistance markers
    - reduced treatment of contaminants and broad-spectrum antimicrobial use
    - Combined with audit and feedback by an antimicrobial stewardship team, enhanced antimicrobial de-escalation.
- **Carba R**
- PNA-FISH
- Accelerate diagnostics: gives AST based on bacterial behaviour after antibiotic exposure on PNA-FISH

## Multiplex polymerase chain reaction (PCR) for rapid bacterial identification from blood cultures: ready for prime time in India?

*Yamunadevi Vellore Ramanathan<sup>1,\*</sup>, Rajalakshmi Arjun<sup>2</sup>, Vidya Krishna<sup>3</sup>, Anil Tarigopula<sup>4</sup>, Ram Gopalakrishnan<sup>5</sup>*

### Abstract

**Introduction** Early identification and determination of antimicrobial susceptibilities of microorganisms growing in blood cultures is crucial as delay can lead to increased mortality, morbidity and cost. This study was done to evaluate the usefulness of the FilmArray blood culture identification (FA-BCID) in comparison with conventional techniques in early identification and antimicrobial initiation.

**Methods** This was a single centre, prospective study conducted in a 24-bed critical care unit (CCU) of a tertiary care hospital at Chennai, India between October 2016 and December 2016. Patients whose blood culture bottles were flagged using the BACTEC-FX system were included. The blood culture was processed by FA-BCID and by conventional method and the results were compared.

**Results** A total of 36 positive blood cultures were analyzed by both FA-BCID and conventional method from patients admitted in the CCU. FA-BCID accurately identified 80% of the organisms. Of 32 isolates identified by FA-BCID, 50% (16/32) showed isolated growth of Gram negative bacteria (GNB), 37.5% (12/32) showed isolated growth of Gram positive (GP) bacteria, whereas 12.5% (4/32) showed >1 micro-organism in the same culture bottle. Overall, sensitivity, specificity, positive predictive value and negative predictive value were 100% for the identification of GP bacteria, and 69%, 100%, 100% and 76.4% for GNB, respectively. FA-BCID identified oxacillin resistance (*mec A*) accurately, whereas resistance mechanisms could not be predicted at all in cases of Gram negatives as the kit only has KPC gene identification system. The turnaround time of FA-BCID was a median of 2 hours compared to 2 days for the conventional method. Antibiotics were de-escalated or escalated in 47.2% of patients based on FA-BCID within a median time of 3 hours.

**Conclusion** FA-BCID is a significant advance in the early identification and escalation or de-escalation of treatment for bacteremia in critically ill patients, with a high sensitivity for Gram positive bacteria as compared to Gram negative bacteria. Incorporation of probes for prevalent pathogens and resistance genes would make this panel more useful in Indian settings.

## Table 1. FA-BCID panel constituents

### Antimicrobial resistance genes

1. KPC (carbapenem resistance gene)
2. *mecA* (methicillin resistance gene)
3. *vanA/B* (vancomycin resistance gene)

### Gram positive bacteria

1. *Enterococcus*
2. *Listeria monocytogenes*
3. *Staphylococcus*
4. *Staphylococcus aureus*
5. *Streptococcus*
6. *Streptococcus agalactiae* (group B)
7. *Streptococcus pneumoniae*
8. *Streptococcus pyogenes* (group A)

### Gram negative bacteria

1. *Acinetobacter baumannii*
2. *Enterobacteriaceae*
3. *Enterobacter cloacae* complex
4. *Escherichia coli*
5. *Klebsiella oxytoca*
6. *Klebsiella pneumoniae*
7. *Proteus*
8. *Serratia marcescens*
9. *Haemophilus influenzae*
10. *Neisseria meningitidis*
11. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

### Yeast

1. *Candida albicans*
2. *Candida glabrata*
3. *Candida krusei*
4. *Candida parapsilosis*
5. *Candida tropicalis*

# Why combination therapy?

- To provide synergistic activity
  - Beta-lactam acts at cell wall and allows penetration of aminoglycoside to the ribosome
    - eg penicillin plus gentamicin for enterococcal endocarditis
  - Colistin acts as a detergent at cell membrane, allows overcoming of porin channel mediated resistance to carbapenems
- To prevent emergence of resistance while on therapy
  - eg in tuberculosis or HIV
- To broaden spectrum and ensure at least one agent effective against a resistant organism
  - When *Pseudomonas* is multi drug resistant (MDR)

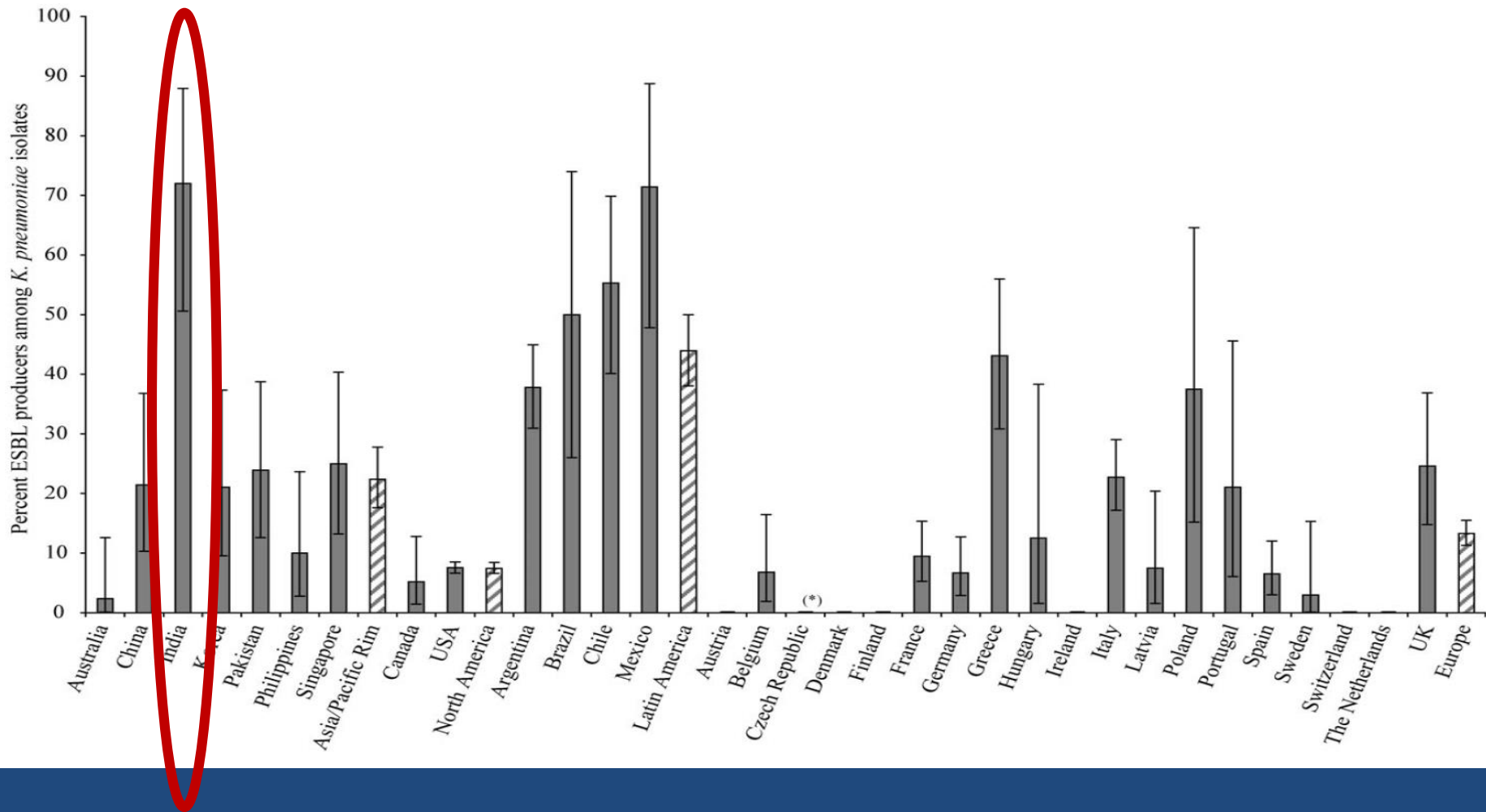


# ESBL producing Enterobacteriaceae

# What are extended spectrum beta-lactamases (ESBLs)?

- First described in 1983 from Germany
- Plasmid carried enzymes made by E.coli, Klebsiella, other Enterobacteriaceae
- Break down cephalosporins, penicillins, aztreonam
- Originated from environmental Kluyvera species with subsequent cross-species transmission amongst enterobacteriaceae
- CTXM-15 is commonest ESBL in India and worldwide
- Often resistance to quinolones and aminoglycosides carried on the same plasmid
- Beta-lactam/beta-lactamase inhibitors may work
- Carbapenems only reliable drug

# A global study on prevalence of ESBL in *K. pneumoniae* of over 86,000 isolates from 266 centers



# Treatment of Infections Caused by ESBL-Producing Organisms

- “Carbapenems are the surest agents for therapy (for ESBL-producing organisms) . . . .”
- For organisms producing TEM and SHV-type ESBLs:
  - apparent in vitro sensitivity to cefepime and to piperacillin-tazobactam is common
  - but both drugs show an inoculum effect
- additional resistance mechanisms (eg, AmpC  $\beta$ -lactamases, OMP mutations) reduce efficacy

Jacoby GA, Munoz-Price L. *N Engl J Med* 2005;352:380-391

*Clin Infect Dis* 2013 56: 488-495



ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: George M. Eliopoulos, Section Editor

# The Use of Noncarbapenem $\beta$ -Lactams for the Treatment of Extended-Spectrum $\beta$ -Lactamase Infections

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- Cephamecins eg  
cefoxitin
- Cefepime
- Piperacillin-tazobactam
- Cefoperazone-  
sulbactam
- Ceftolozane-tazobactam
- Ceftazidime-avibactam
- ? Cefepime-tazobactam

# First generation BLIs for ESBL

- ESBLs are generally inhibited by tazobactam, although production of multiple ESBLs and co-production of AmpC  $\beta$ -lactamase may limit the effectiveness of P/T combination.
- Additional contentious issues are
  - (i) occurrence of inhibitor resistance enzymes (e.g. TEM-IRT)
  - (ii) inoculum effect that may overwhelm the inhibitor activity, during severe infections where the bacterial population is high and
  - (iii) false-negative ESBL detection when AmpC is produced

# Can we use BL/BLI for ESBL E.coli bacteremias?

- **Post Hoc Analysis of Prospective Cohorts from Spain**
  - Predominantly E coli from urinary and biliary sources
  - Mortality rates same for both empirical and definitive therapy
  - “AMC or PTZ are suitable options for the definitive therapy of susceptible ESBL-EC strains causing BSI, mainly in the urinary and biliary tracts, which could help prevent overuse of carbapenems.”
- **Re-analysed above data based on piperacillin MIC**
  - <2, 4-8, >8
  - Mortality 41% for high MIC vs 0% for low MIC
  - No deaths with urosepsis

JAMA | Original Investigation

# Effect of Piperacillin-Tazobactam vs Meropenem on 30-Day Mortality for Patients With *E coli* or *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Bloodstream Infection and Ceftriaxone Resistance

## A Randomized Clinical Trial

Patrick N. A. Harris, MBBS; Paul A. Tambyah, MD; David C. Lye, MBBS; Yin Mo, MBBS; Tau H. Lee, MBBS; Mesut Yilmaz, MD; Thamer H. Alenazi, MD; Yaseen Arabi, MD; Marco Falcone, MD; Matteo Bassetti, MD, PhD; Elda Righi, MD, PhD; Benjamin A. Rogers, MBBS, PhD; Souha Kanj, MD; Hasan Bhally, MBBS; Jon Iredell, MBBS, PhD; Marc Mendelson, MBBS, PhD; Tom H. Boyles, MD; David Looke, MBBS; Spiros Miyakis, MD, PhD; Genevieve Walls, MB, ChB; Mohammed Al Khamis, MD; Ahmed Zikri, PharmD; Amy Crowe, MBBS; Paul Ingram, MBBS; Nick Daneman, MD; Paul Griffin, MBBS; Eugene Athan, MBBS, MPH, PhD; Penelope Lorenc, RN; Peter Baker, PhD; Leah Roberts, BSc; Scott A. Beatson, PhD; Anton Y. Peleg, MBBS, PhD; Tiffany Harris-Brown, RN, MPH; David L. Paterson, MBBS, PhD; for the MERINO Trial Investigators and the Australasian Society for Infectious Disease Clinical Research Network (ASID-CRN)

Table 2. Primary Analysis and Subgroup Analyses

	30-d Mortality, No./Total No. (%)		Risk Difference, % (1-Sided 97.5% CI) <sup>a</sup>	P Value for Noninferiority
	Piperacillin-Tazobactam	Meropenem		
Primary analysis	23/187 (12.3)	7/191 (3.7)	8.6 (−∞ to 14.5)	.90
Per-protocol analysis	18/170 (10.6)	7/186 (3.8)	6.8 (−∞ to 12.8)	.76
Subgroup analyses <sup>b</sup>				P Value for Interaction
OECD country income				
Middle income	8/37 (21.6)	1/35 (2.9)	18.8 (−∞ to 35.0)	.31
High income	15/150 (10.0)	6/156 (3.9)	6.2 (−∞ to 12.5)	
Pitt score				
≥4	5/18 (27.8)	0/9	27.8 (−∞ to 51.3)	.99
<4	18/169 (10.7)	7/182 (3.9)	6.8 (−∞ to 12.8)	
Infecting species				
<i>E coli</i>	17/161 (10.6)	7/166 (4.2)	6.3 (−∞ to 12.6)	.99
<i>K pneumoniae</i>	6/26 (23.1)	0/25	23.1 (−∞ to 42.3)	
Infection				
HAI	18/107 (16.8)	4/107 (3.7)	13.1 (−∞ to 21.8)	.26
Non-HAI	5/80 (6.3)	3/84 (3.6)	2.7 (−∞ to 10.7)	
Appropriate empirical antibiotic therapy				
Appropriate	18/126 (14.3)	5/127 (3.9)	10.3 (−∞ to 18.0)	.70
Inappropriate	5/61 (8.2)	2/64 (3.1)	5.1 (−∞ to 15.2)	
UT vs non-UT source				
UT	7/102 (6.9)	4/128 (3.1)	3.7 (−∞ to 10.7)	.44
Non-UT	16/85 (18.8)	3/63 (4.8)	14.1 (−∞ to 24.5)	
Immune compromise <sup>c</sup>				
Present	10/51 (19.6)	1/40 (2.5)	17.1 (−∞ to 30.5)	.27
Absent	13/136 (9.6)	6/151 (4.0)	5.6 (−∞ to 12.2)	

# Now, why did pip-taz fail?

Likely the reason is due to complex resistance mechanisms exhibited by the isolates.

On WGS, 67.6 % showed OXA 1 narrow spectrum oxacillinases blaOXA-1 (inhibitor resistant [IRT] enzyme) in addition to ESBLs and ampCs.

These are of course are not inactivated by tazobactam.

ESBL can be masked by the co-production of AmpC; moreover, a high inoculum effect may cause pip-taz to fail

Co-production of blaCTXM-15 + blaOXA-1 is too strong a combination for  $\beta$ L/ $\beta$ LI to be effective

# How it has changed my practice

- I always now use carbapenems as empiric therapy for severely ill patients
- De-escalate to ertapenem rather than piptaz
- Pip-taz best reserved for less severely ill patients in whom bacteremia is unlikely or after susceptibilities are available

# BL-BLIs for ESBL bacteremias: when to use

- ✘ Avoid till bacteremia excluded!
- ✘ Use for non bacteremic patients with
  - ✘ low inoculum infections
  - ✘ less severely ill patients
  - ✘ Urosepsis or biliary sepsis
  - ✘ E coli rather than Klebsiella
  - ✘ MIC shown to be low
  - ✘ definitive therapy rather than empiric therapy
- Always use high end doses eg
  - Piperacillin-tazobactam 4.5g q 6h as 3h infusion
  - Cefoperazone-sulbactam 3g q 8h



# BL/BLIs not associated with poor outcomes in AmpC-producers

- The optimal treatment for potential AmpC-producing *Enterobacteriaceae*, including *Serratia*, *Providencia*, *Citrobacter*, *Enterobacter*, and *Morganella* species, remains unknown
- Conventional belief:
  - hydrolysable beta-lactam therapy, including third-generation cephalosporins and beta-lactam/beta-lactamase inhibitor (BL/BLI) combinations, may be associated with an increased risk of treatment failure.
  - For this reason, clinicians often prescribe alternate therapies, including carbapenems
- A meta-analysis yielded a pooled OR for death within 30 days for patients receiving a BL/BLI as definitive therapy of 1.04 (95% CI 0.54–2.02).
- BL/BLI can be considered for use instead of carbapenems in less severely ill patients



# Carbapenem resistant GNB

# MDR *P. aeruginosa*

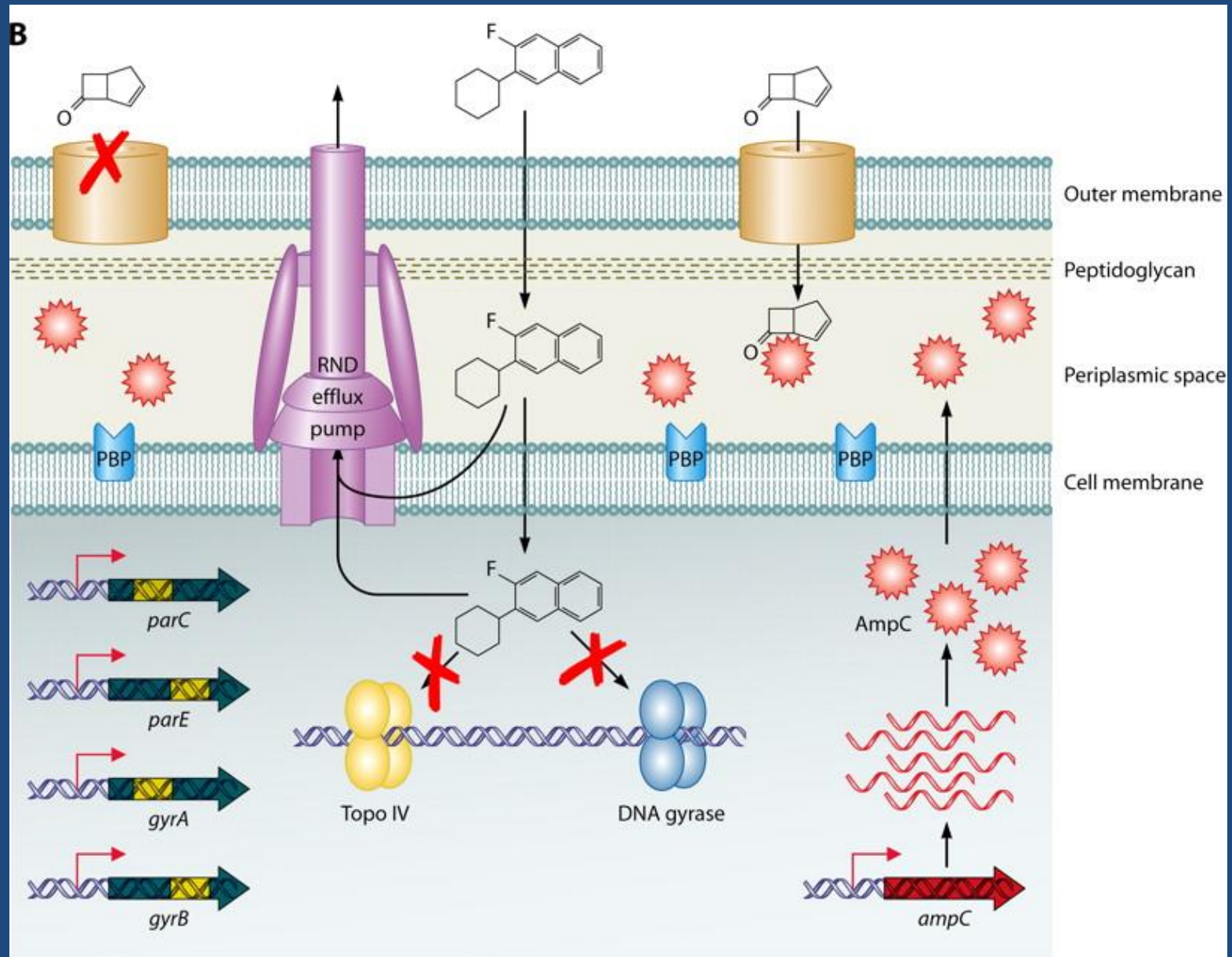


*The resistance challenge of the ages*

# Pseudomonas aeruginosa bacteremia

- Traditionally the most virulent Gram negative pathogen
- Main pathogen in neutropenic patients
- MICs close to breakpoint for susceptible, rather than one log lower eg pneumococcus
- 30-day mortality following *P. aeruginosa* bacteremia was 30% even in most recent trial
- Hence need for increased dose/duration/combo treatment

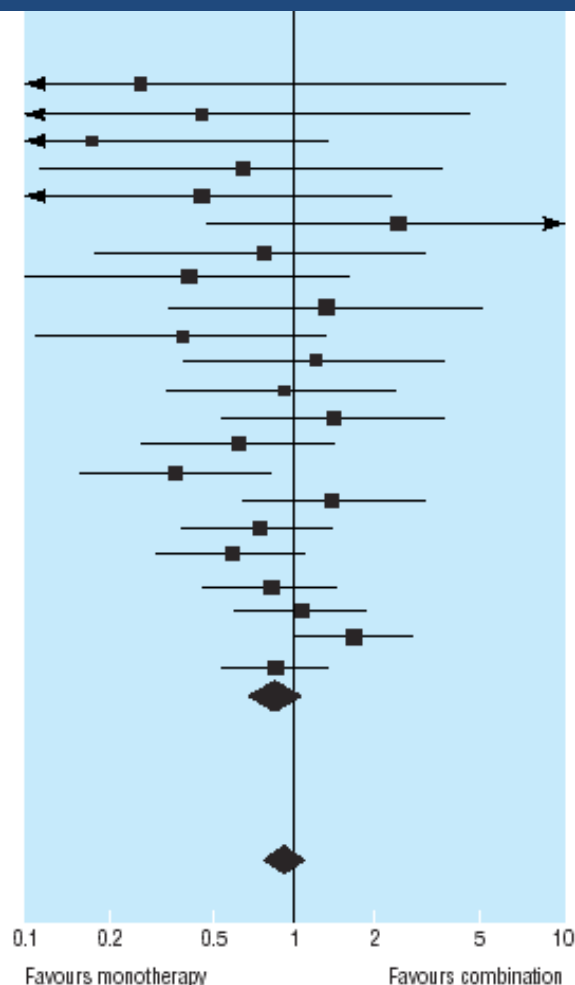
# King of resistance: all present



# $\beta$ lactam monotherapy versus $\beta$ lactam-aminoglycoside combination therapy for sepsis in immunocompetent patients: systematic review and meta-analysis of randomised trials

Mical Paul, Ishay Benuri-Silbiger, Karla Soares-Weiser, Leonard Leibovici

Wing 1998	0/117	0/62
Yellin 1993	0/56	0/34
Bergeron 1988	0/37	1/29
Cone 1985	1/21	2/19
Speich 1998	1/44	6/45
Thompson 1990	2/49	3/47
Hoepelman 1988	2/45	4/41
Koehler 1990	5/73	2/71
Jaspers 1998	3/39	4/40
Stille 1992	3/186	6/151
Landau 1990	4/20	3/20
Warren 1983	3/56	9/64
Gomez 1990	6/39	5/39
Mouton 1995	7/116	8/121
Arich 1987	8/25	5/22
Felisart 1985	7/37	11/36
Smith 1984	7/94	19/93
McCormick 1997	13/65	9/63
Mouton 1990	14/105	19/106
Sieger 1997	13/104	23/107



0.86). There was no advantage to combination therapy among patients with Gram negative infections (1835 patients) or *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infections (426 patients). There was no difference in the rate of development of resistance. Nephrotoxicity was significantly more common with combination therapy (0.36, 0.28 to 0.47). Heterogeneity was not

Test for heterogeneity:  $\chi^2=32.30$ ,  $df=20$ ,  $P=0.04$ ,  $I^2=7.1\%$   
 Test for overall effect:  $z=1.22$ ,  $P=0.22$

# What we were taught regarding *P. aeruginosa* bacteremia

- 1983 to ~ early 2000s
  - Should be treated with a combination of
    - An anti-Pseudomonal beta-lactam
    - An aminoglycoside
- Early 2000s to 2013
  - single effective anti-Pseudomonal beta-lactam antibiotic sufficient
  - Mortality in first 48 hrs reduced with adding an aminoglycoside only if started as empiric therapy immediately after blood cultures drawn



# In 2013, lots of new data on Pseudomonas bacteremia!

- Single center study
- Retrospective study
- Meta-analysis
- Prospective cohort study
  
- Need to look at whether
  - Both antibiotics covering (true synergy)
  - or
  - At least one antibiotic covering (to make sure organism covered)
  
- Need to look at both
  - empirical therapy: starting at time of drawing cultures
  - definitive therapy: starting at time of receipt of culture



# We need an RCT

- Randomize at time of empiric treatment
- Randomize again at time of identification of *Pseudomonas*
- Need to recruit 1300 patients
- Such a trial unlikely to be done

# Pseudomonas aeruginosa bacteremia: one drug or combination therapy?

If Pseudomonas in your practice is sensitive:

Current concept is that a **single** effective anti-Pseudomonas beta-lactam antibiotic sufficient

- **First large prospective study: no benefit for combination** in both empiric and definitive stages

If Pseudomonas in your practice is MDR:

▣ Can **start with empiric combination therapy**

- To ensure at least one agent effective against a resistant organism
- to prevent emergence of resistance (no clinical data to support this)

▣ No role for adding aminoglycoside after blood culture returns or continuing for entire duration of therapy

# Monotherapy or combination therapy for *P aeruginosa* VAP?

- Monotherapy
  - AST known
- Combination therapy
  - Pending AST
  - in septic shock or at a high risk for death
- IDSA recommends against aminoglycoside monotherapy
  - Aminoglycosides do not reach high lung tissue levels, use only till bacteremia excluded

Comments (0)

ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

## Ceftazidime, carbapenems, or piperacillin-tazobactam as single definitive therapy for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* bloodstream infection - a multi-site retrospective study

Tanya Babich, Pontus Naucler, John Karlsson Valik, Christian G Giske, Natividad Benito, Ruben Cardona, Alba Rivera, Celine Pulcini, Manal Abdel Fattah, Justine Haquin ... [Show more](#)

*Clinical Infectious Diseases*, ciz668, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciz668>

**Published:** 17 July 2019 [Article history ▾](#)

- No significant difference in mortality, clinical, and microbiological outcomes or adverse events
- Higher rates of resistant *P. aeruginosa* after patients were treated with carbapenems, along with the general preference for carbapenem-sparing regimens, suggests using ceftazidime or piperacillin-tazobactam for treating susceptible infection.



# CR Acinetobacter



# Newer $\beta$ -Lactam/ $\beta$ -Lactamase Inhibitor for Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Infections: Challenges, Implications and Surveillance Strategy for India

Balaji Veeraraghavan, Agila Kumari Pragasam, Yamuna Devi Bakthavatchalam, Shalini Anandan, V Ramasubramanian<sup>1</sup>, Subramanian Swaminathan<sup>2</sup>, Ram Gopalakrishnan<sup>1</sup>, Rajeev Soman<sup>3</sup>, O C Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Vinod C Ohri<sup>5</sup>, Kamini Walia<sup>6</sup>

**Table 2: Current antimicrobial susceptibility profile, molecular resistance mechanisms, and lineages observed in India**

	Cephalosporin		Carbapenems		Colistin* (among carbapenem resistance)	
	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance (chromosomal mutations)
<i>E. coli</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-1</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 10%	<i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48 like</sub>	8%	Scanty information on chromosomal mutations
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	Up to 60%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 40%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48like</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	37%	Mutations in <i>mgrB</i> , <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i>
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VEB</sub>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VEB</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>IMP</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>ParR/S</i>
<i>A. baumannii</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>PER</sub>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-23/24like</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>Lpx</i>



**Table 2: Current antimicrobial susceptibility profile, molecular resistance mechanisms, common mobile genetic elements and lineages observed in India**

	Cephalosporin		Carbapenems		Colistin* (among carbapenem resistance)		MGEs	Lineages
	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance (chromosomal mutations)	Associated with resistance	International Indian high risk clones
<i>E. coli</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-1<sup>r</sup></sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 10%	<i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48 like</sub>	8%	Scanty information on chromosomal mutations	IncFII - 93% IncFIA - 87% IncFIB (AP001918) - 63% IncL1-40 Col (BS512) - 43 Integron - Class 1	ST131/ST167
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	Up to 60%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 40%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48like</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	37%	Mutations in <i>mgrB</i> , <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i>	ColKP3-44 IncFIB - 24 IncR - 24 IncFIA - 22 IncFIB (pQil) - 22 Integron - Class 1	ST258/ST14, ST231
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VEB</sub>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VIM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TMP</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>ParR/S</i>	IncP Integron - Class 1	ST111, ST233 ST235, ST244 ST357/ST664 ST1047, ST823, ST773
<i>A. baumannii</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>PER</sub>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-23/24like</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>Lpx</i>	Integron - Class 1 Insertion sequences - ISAbal	ST457, ST195 ST862



# Treatment options for MDR Acinetobacter

- Carbapenems
  - However MIC50 to carbapenems is 128 and MIC90 is 256
- Sulbactam
- Aminoglycosides
- Tigecycline
- Rifampin
- Polymyxins
- Minocycline

# Sulbactam

- Sulbactam is a class A  $N_L$ -lactamase inhibitor with intrinsic whole-cell activity against certain bacterial species, including *Acinetobacter baumannii*.
- antibacterial activities of sulbactam vary widely across contemporary *A. baumannii* clinical isolates and are mediated through inhibition of the penicillin-binding proteins (PBPs) PBP1 and PBP3, with very low frequency of resistance
- the rare *pbp3* mutants with high levels of resistance to sulbactam are attenuated in fitness.

# Sulbactam

- Presence of a beta-lactam agent (e.g., ampicillin) in combination with the BLI does not appear to contribute activity or synergy
- Results of antimicrobial susceptibility tests (e.g., with agar dilution or the E test) of BL/BLI combinations at fixed concentrations must be interpreted with caution
  - may indicate susceptibility when an isolate is actually resistant
- Monotherapy not recommended
- Available as a stand alone agent in India
- Recommended dose is 1 g of sulbactam every 3 h or 4 h (total daily dose of 6–8 g)

# Minocycline

- The US FDA recently approved a new formulation of intravenous minocycline for the treatment of Gram positive and Gram negative infections, including MDR *Acinetobacter*
- Mainly bacteriostatic, but bactericidal in combination with carbapenems or colistin against *Acinetobacter baumannii*; so recommended in combination
- availability of CLSI susceptibility breakpoints with *Acinetobacter* and minocycline
  - $\leq 4$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  for susceptibility
  - $8$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  for intermediate
  - $\geq 16$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  for resistance
- Generally well tolerated, usual tetracycline issues
- Dose is 200 mg loading, then 100 mg q12h (max of 400/day)

# Minocycline for CRAB infections – watch out!

- MIC breakpoints of MIC  $\leq 4$  mg/L for susceptibility and MIC  $\geq 16$  mg/L for resistance by CLSI guidelines
- The authors attempted Monte Carlo simulation for many dosing strategies (100mg, 200mg, 400mg) and show that
  - a 200mg daily dose of minocycline only had an 85% probability of target attainment (fAUC/MIC  $> 25$ ) at an MIC of 0.5mg/L
  - even 400mg daily yielded 0% PTA at an MIC of 4mg/L
- Conclusions:
  - 1. The CLSI breakpoints for minocycline against *A. baumannii* are rather liberal. If one has to use the agent for serious infections consider a high dose – more than or equal to 400mg per day.
  - 2. Always get an MIC when you are attempting to use minocycline for CRAB infections.

# Combination therapy for Acinetobacter with colistin & rifampicin?

- ▣ Colistin may be synergistic with rifampin
  - Cell membrane effect allows increased penetration to the nucleus
- ▣ May increase colistin nephrotoxicity
- ▣ Potential for drug interactions
- ▣ RCT from Italy
- ▣ no benefit to combination of colistin with rifampicin
- ▣ 30 day mortality not affected
- ▣ More microbiologic eradication
- ▣ No difference in nephrotoxicity
- ▣ More hepatotoxicity

## Colistin + carbapenem better than colistin + tigecycline for XDR Acinetobacter bacteremia

- 31 patients on colistin-tigecycline compared with 29 on colistin-carbapenem
- Crude 14 day mortality was 35% vs 15% (NS)
- Breakthrough bacteremia in 18% vs 0% (p=0.059)
- Excess 14d mortality if tige MIC>2 (p=0.009)
- Conclusion: tigecycline combination not appropriate for bacteremia, add carbapenem instead

## Comparative efficacy and safety of treatment options for MDR and XDR *Acinetobacter baumannii* infections: a systematic review and network meta-analysis

Kirati Kengkla<sup>1</sup>, Khachen Kongpakwattana<sup>2</sup>, Surasak Saokaew<sup>1–3,6</sup>, Anucha Apisarntharak<sup>4</sup> and Nathorn Chaiyakunapruk<sup>2,3,5,6\*</sup>

- No treatment options significantly increased clinical cure rate.
- The triple therapy consisting of colistin, sulbactam and tigecycline had the highest rank among all treatments compared with colistin in combination with sulbactam (RR 1.17, 95% CI 0.56–2.44), colistin monotherapy (RR 1.28, 95% CI 0.63–2.61) and tigecycline monotherapy (RR 1.38, 95% CI 0.63–3.04).
- **Colistin in combination with sulbactam was associated with a significantly higher microbiological cure rate**
- No significant differences in all cause mortality were noted between treatment options.



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Articles

## Colistin alone versus colistin plus meropenem for treatment of severe infections caused by carbapenem-resistant Gram-negative bacteria: an open-label, randomised controlled trial

Mical Paul, MD , Prof George L Daikos, MD, Emanuele Durante-Mangoni, MD, Dafna Yahav, MD, Prof Yehuda Carmeli, MD, Yael Dishon Benattar, MA, Anna Skiada, MD, Roberto Andini, MD, Noa Eliakim-Raz, MD, Amir Nutman, MD, Oren Zusman, MD, Anastasia Antoniadou, MD, Pia Clara Pafundi, Amos Adler, MD, Yaakov Dickstein, MD, Ioannis Pavleas, MD, Rosa Zampino, MD, Vered Daitch, MA, Roni Bitterman, MD, Hiba Zayyad, MD, Fidi Koppel, BA, Inbar Levi, MA, Tanya Babich, MA, Prof Lena E Friberg, PhD, Prof Johan W Mouton, MD, Ursula Theuretzbacher, PhD, Prof Leonard Leibovici, MD

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CrossMark



- Colistin (9-mu loading, followed by 4.5 mu q12h) vs
- Colistin with meropenem (2-g prolonged infusion q8h).
- Most infections were caused by *Acinetobacter baumannii* (312/406, 77%).
- No significant difference between colistin monotherapy (156/198, 79%) and combination therapy (152/208, 73%) was observed for clinical failure at 14 days after randomisation (risk difference -5.7%, 95% CI -13.9 to 2.4; risk ratio [RR] 0.93, 95% CI 0.83-1.03).
- Results were similar among patients with *A baumannii* infections (RR 0.97, 95% CI 0.87-1.09).

# How it has changed my practice

- Addition of meropenem unnecessary if colistin sensitive
- If you have started with empiric combination therapy with meropenem, colistin alone enough after DST available
- Add sulbactam in difficult cases

## Therapy of carbapenem resistant Acinetobacter: my recommendations

- First decide whether true infection or colonization
- Remove lines, do source reduction
- Colistin is the cornerstone
- Monotherapy adequate if colistin sensitive
- Use high dose minocycline if sensitive
- In septic shock or non resolving bacteremia, add high dose sulbactam (8-12g/d) or minocycline
- Try anything else found sensitive eg chloramphenicol
- Look at MICs rather than just sensitive vs resistant
- Pray!



# CR E coli and Klebsiella

# Emergence of a new antibiotic resistance mechanism in India, Pakistan, and the UK: a molecular, biological, and epidemiological study

*Karthikeyan K Kumarasamy, Mark A Toleman, Timothy R Walsh, Jay Bagaria, Fafhana Butt, Ravikumar Balakrishnan, Uma Chaudhary, Michel Doumith, Christian G Giske, Seema Irfan, Padma Krishnan, Anil V Kumar, Sunil Maharjan, Shazad Mushtaq, Tabassum Noorie, David L Paterson, Andrew Pearson, Claire Perry, Rachel Pike, Bhargavi Rao, Ujjwayini Ray, Jayanta B Sarma, Madhu Sharma, Elizabeth Sheridan, Mandayam A Thirunarayan, Jane Turton, Supriya Upadhyay, Marina Warner, William Welfare, David M Livermore, Neil Woodford*

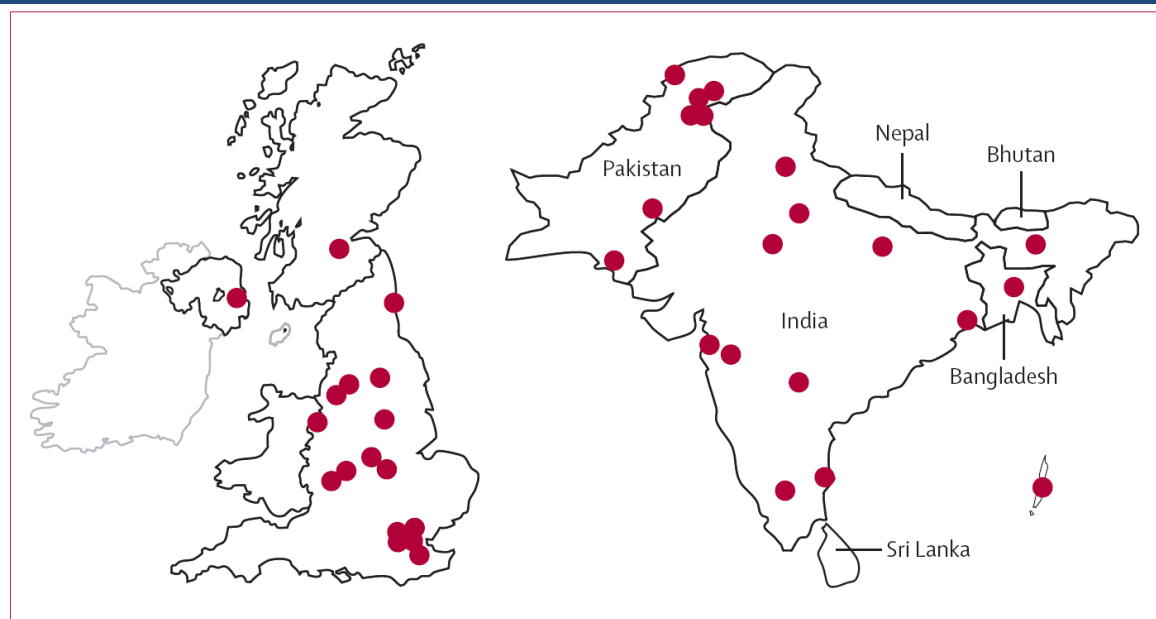


Figure 5: Distribution of NDM-1-producing Enterobacteriaceae strains in Bangladesh, Indian, Pakistan, and the UK

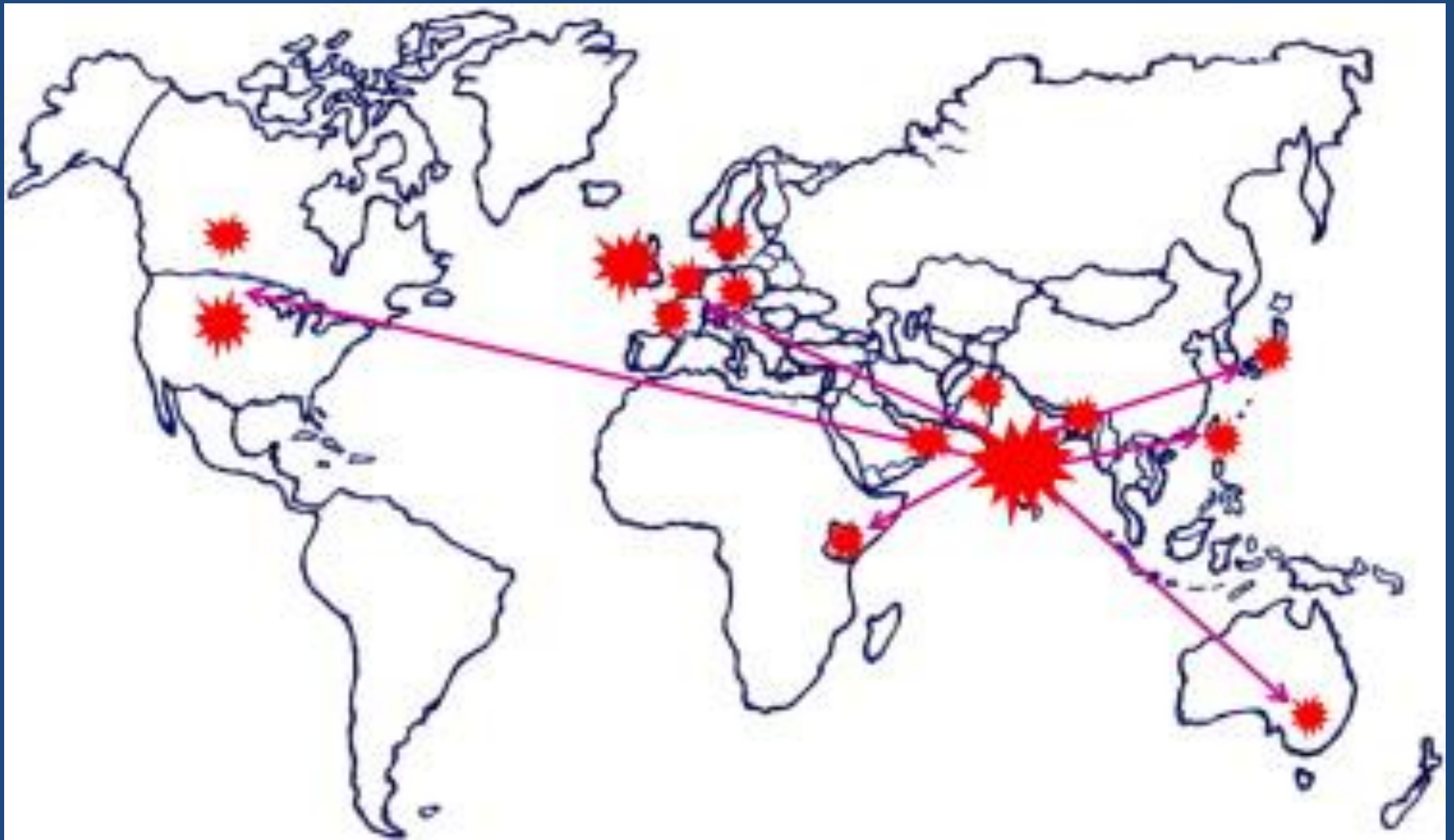
# Dissemination of NDM-1 positive bacteria in the New Delhi environment and its implications for human health: an environmental point prevalence study

Timothy R Walsh, Janis Weeks, David M Livermore, Mark A Toleman





Figure 1: Map of NDM-1-positive samples from New Delhi centre and surrounding areas

# NDM-1 has spread worldwide





## Effect of carbapenem resistance on outcomes of bloodstream infection caused by Enterobacteriaceae in low-income and middle-income countries (PANORAMA): a multinational prospective cohort study

[Andrew J Stewardson, MBBS](#)   • [Kalisvar Marimuthu, MBBS](#) <sup>†</sup> • [Sharmila Sengupta, MD](#) • [Arthur Allignol, PhD](#) • [Maisra El-Bouseary, PhD](#) • [Maria J Carvalho, PhD](#) • et al. [Show all authors](#) • [Show footnotes](#)

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- Crude mortality was
  - 20% for patients with CSE bloodstream infection and
  - 35% for patients with CRE bloodstream infection.
- Carbapenem resistance was associated with
  - an increased length of hospital stay (3·7 days)
  - increased probability of in-hospital mortality (1·75)
  - decreased probability of discharge alive (0·61).

# Summary on Carbapenemases

- Metallo-enzymes
  - Eg NDM-1, spreading in communities
- OXA series
  - Eg OXA 48, spreading in communities
- KPC
  - Limited to hospital Klebsiella, easier to control eg Israel
- Indian data (Vellore)
  - E coli: **NDM** >>OXA >NDM+VIM >NDM+OXA
  - Klebsiella: **OXA-48** >NDM >NDM+OXA-48 >NDM+VIM+OXA-48

# Newer $\beta$ -Lactam/ $\beta$ -Lactamase Inhibitor for Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Infections: Challenges, Implications and Surveillance Strategy for India

Balaji Veeraraghavan, Agila Kumari Pragasam, Yamuna Devi Bakthavatchalam, Shalini Anandan, V Ramasubramanian<sup>1</sup>, Subramanian Swaminathan<sup>2</sup>, Ram Gopalakrishnan<sup>1</sup>, Rajeev Soman<sup>3</sup>, O C Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Vinod C Ohri<sup>5</sup>, Kamini Walia<sup>6</sup>

**Table 2: Current antimicrobial susceptibility profile, molecular resistance mechanisms, and lineages observed in India**

	Cephalosporin		Carbapenems		Colistin* (among carbapenem resistance)	
	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance (chromosomal mutations)
<i>E. coli</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-1</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 10%	<i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48</sub> like	8%	Scanty information on chromosomal mutations
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	Up to 60%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 40%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48</sub> like <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	37%	Mutations in <i>mgrB</i> , <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i>
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VEB</sub>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VEB</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>IMP</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>ParR/S</i>
<i>A. baumannii</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>PER</sub>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-23/24</sub> like <sup>p</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>Lpx</i>

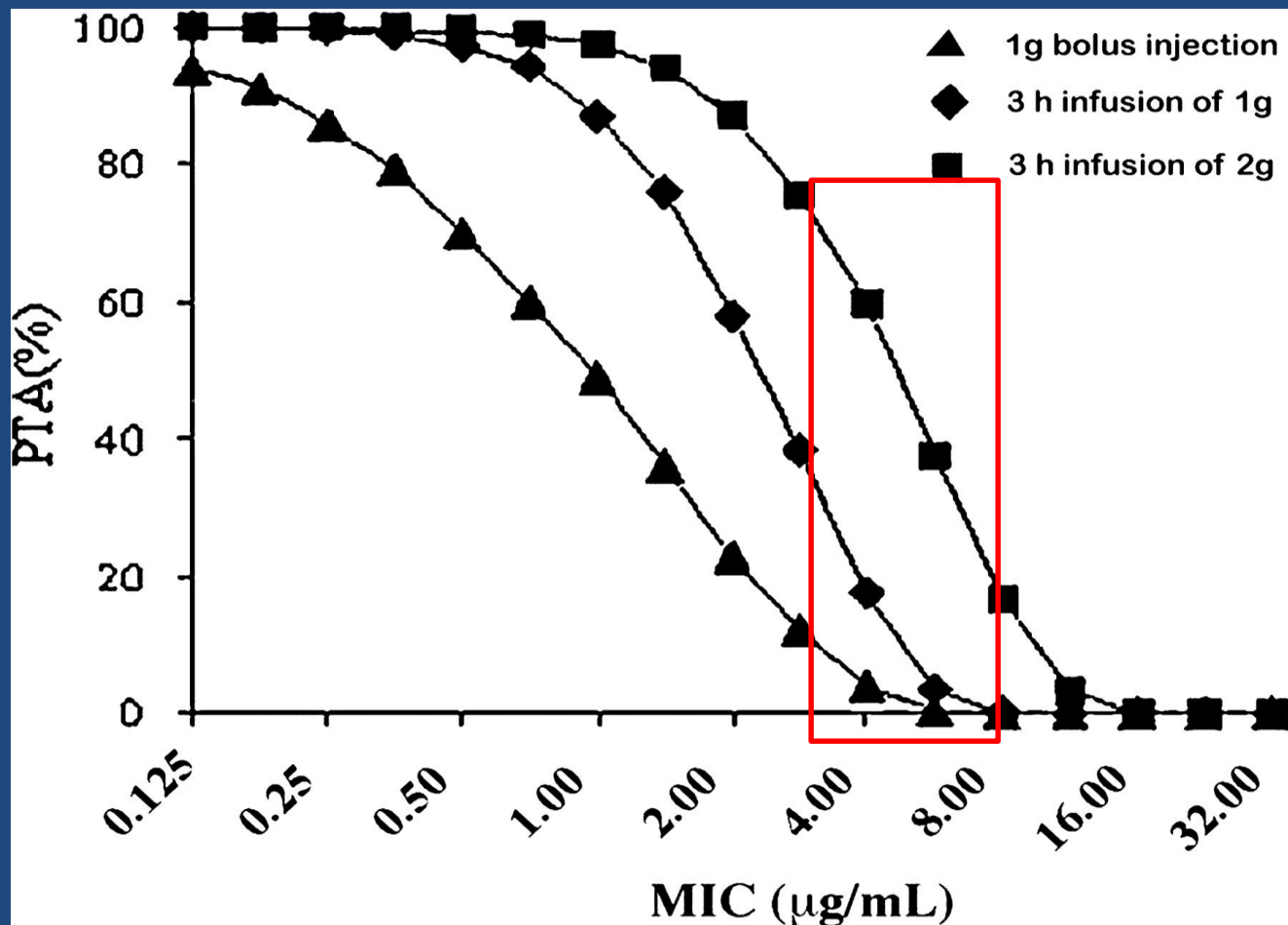
**Table 2: Current antimicrobial susceptibility profile, molecular resistance mechanisms, common mobile genetic elements and lineages observed in India**

	Cephalosporin		Carbapenems		Colistin* (among carbapenem resistance)		MGEs	Lineages
	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance	Percentage resistance	Molecular mechanism of resistance (chromosomal mutations)	Associated with resistance	International Indian high risk clones
<i>E. coli</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-1<sup>r</sup></sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 10%	<i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48 like</sub>	8%	Scanty information on chromosomal mutations	IncFII - 93% IncFIA - 87% IncFIB (AP001918) - 63% IncL1-40 Col (BS512) - 43 Integron - Class 1	ST131/ST167
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	Up to 60%	<i>bla</i> <sub>SHV</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M-15</sub>	Up to 40%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48like</sub> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	37%	Mutations in <i>mgrB</i> , <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i>	ColKP3-44 IncFIB - 24 IncR - 24 IncFIA - 22 IncFIB (pQil) - 22 Integron - Class 1	ST258/ST14, ST231
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VEB</sub>	Up to 25%	<i>bla</i> <sub>VIM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>TMP</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PhoP/Q</i> , <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>ParR/S</i>	IncP Integron - Class 1	ST111, ST233 ST235, ST244 ST357/ST664 ST1047, ST823, ST773
<i>A. baumannii</i>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>TEM</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>PER</sub>	Up to 70%	<i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-23/24like</sub> <sup>r</sup> <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub>	<5%	Mutations in <i>PmrA/B</i> , <i>Lpx</i>	Integron - Class 1 Insertion sequences - ISAbal	ST457, ST195 ST862

# Strategies for CR Klebsiella

- Higher mortality in patients with CRKP than those having CSKP (pooled crude OR 2.80; 95% CI 2.15 – 3.65) (*Ann Clin Microbiol Antimicrob* 2017; 16:18)
- High dose carbapenem
  - Cure rates based on MIC
    - 69% if <4
    - 60% if 8
    - 29% if >8
    - Problem is that MIC50 is 64 and MIC90 is 256 (Vellore)
- Double carbapenem
  - Ertapenem acts as a suicide substrate, give high dose meropenem 1 hr later
  - Works only vs KPC
- Combination treatment
  - Tigecycline
  - Fosfomycin
  - Colistin

# Example of the probability of target attainment of a chosen pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic target with 3 dosage regimens of meropenem in relation to MIC values.



Theuretzbacher U Clin Infect Dis. 2012;54:1785-1792



# Effect of appropriate combination therapy on mortality of patients with bloodstream infections due to carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae (INCREMENT): a retrospective cohort study

*Belén Gutiérrez-Gutiérrez\*, Elena Salamanca\*, Marina de Cueto, Po-Ren Hsueh, Pierluigi Viale, José Ramón Paño-Pardo, Mario Venditti, Mario Tumbarello, George Daikos, Rafael Cantón, Yohei Doi, Felipe Francisco Tuon, Ilias Karaikos, Elena Pérez-Nadales, Mitchell J Schwaber, Özlem Kurt Azap, Maria Souli, Emmanuel Roilides, Spyros Pournaras, Murat Akova, Federico Pérez, Joaquín Bermejo, Antonio Oliver, Manel Almela, Warren Lowman, Benito Almirante, Robert A Bonomo, Yehuda Carmeli, David L Paterson, Alvaro Pascual, Jesús Rodríguez-Baño, and the REIPI/ESGBIS/INCREMENT Investigators†*

Lancet Infect Dis 2017; 17: 726–34

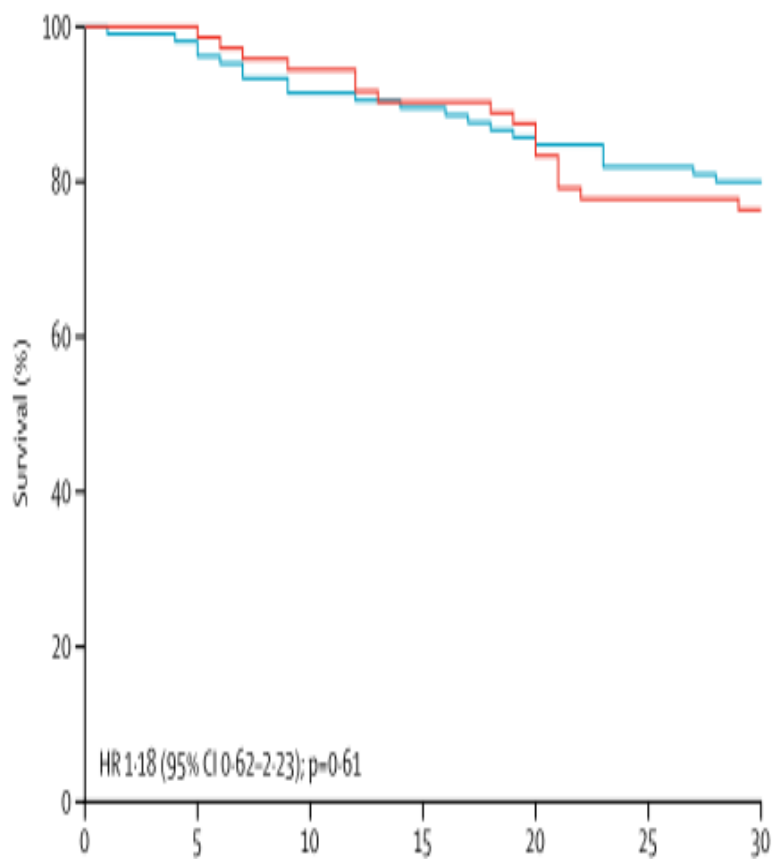
	Crude analysis		Adjusted analysis*	
	HR (95% CI)	p value	HR (95% CI)	p value
Age (per year)	1.00 (1.00–1.01)	0.32	..	..
Male sex	0.93 (0.70–1.24)	0.62	..	..
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	1.29 (0.83–2.02)	0.25	..	..
OXA-type carbapenemase	1.43 (1.00–2.05)	0.05	..	..
Nosocomial acquisition	1.83 (1.06–3.16)	0.03	..	..
Source other than urinary or biliary tract†	2.12 (1.37–3.29)	0.0009	1.72 (1.09–2.72)	0.02
ICU admission	1.55 (1.16–2.08)	0.003	..	..
Charlson comorbidity index score (per unit)	1.10 (1.05–1.16)	<0.0001	1.13 (1.07–1.20)	<0.0001
Mechanical ventilation	1.76 (1.32–2.34)	<0.0001	..	..
Mental status: not alert	2.45 (1.82–3.29)	<0.0001	..	..
Chronic kidney disease	1.33 (0.97–1.84)	0.08	..	..
Chronic liver disease	1.58 (1.08–2.31)	0.02	..	..
Leukaemia or metastatic cancer	1.61 (1.12–2.31)	0.009	..	..
Pitt bacteraemia score (per unit)	1.17 (1.13–1.22)	<0.0001	1.09 (1.04–1.15)	0.0003
Severe sepsis or septic shock	3.87 (2.78–5.39)	<0.0001	3.11 (2.14–4.51)	<0.0001
Early appropriate therapy (started in ≤2 days after infection)	0.84 (0.59–1.21)	0.35	..	..
Appropriate therapy (started in ≤5 days after infection)	0.44 (0.33–0.61)	<0.0001	0.45 (0.33–0.62)	<0.0001
High-mortality-risk centre	2.25 (1.69–2.99)	<0.0001	2.37 (1.74–3.22)	<0.0001
Study period 2004–11 (reference 2012–13)	1.52 (1.09–2.13)	0.01	1.43 (1.02–2.01)	0.04

HR=hazard ratio. OXA=oxacillinase. ICU=intensive care unit. \*All variance inflation factor values of the variables included in the final multivariate model were less than 1.4. We included variables with a univariate p value of 0.2 or less for mortality in the initial model. †Biliary tract infections included cholecystitis and cholangitis.

**Table 2: Univariate and multivariate Cox regression analyses for mortality of patients with bacteraemia due to carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae**



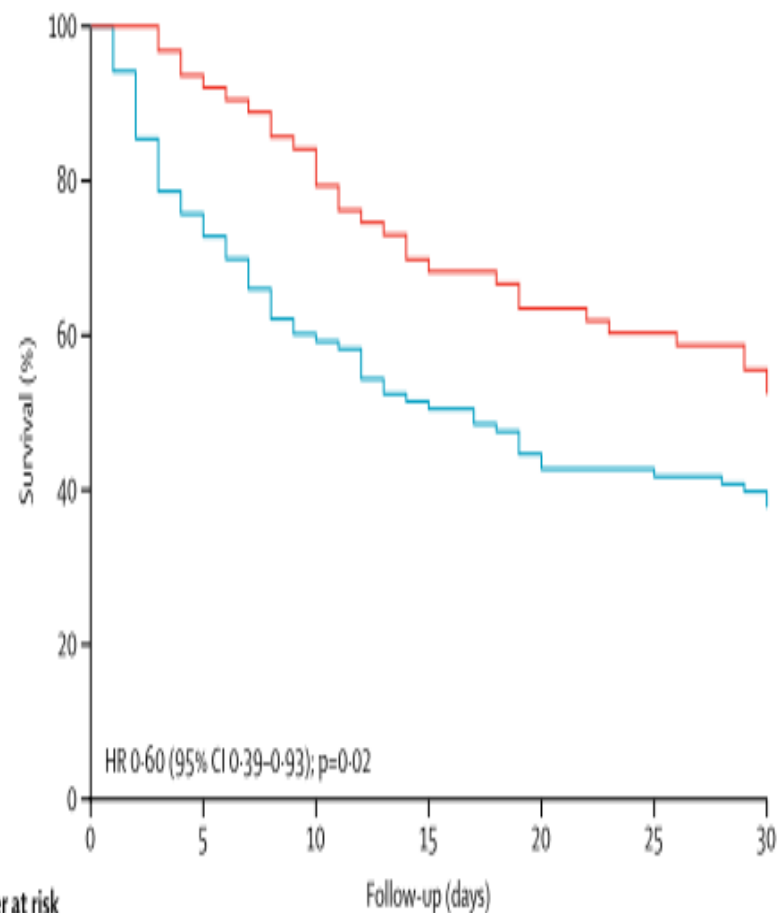
### B Low mortality score (0-7)



#### Number at risk

	0	5	10	15	20	25	30
Monotherapy	105	103	96	94	90	86	84
Combination therapy	72	72	68	65	63	56	55

### C High mortality score (8-15)



#### Number at risk

	0	5	10	15	20	25	30
Monotherapy	103	78	62	53	46	44	41
Combination therapy	63	59	53	44	40	38	35

# Conclusion

- Interpretation: appropriate therapy was associated with a protective effect on mortality among patients with BSIs due to CPE.
- Combination therapy when started empirically was associated with improved survival only in patients with a high mortality score.
- Patients with BSIs due to CPE should receive active therapy as soon as they are diagnosed, and monotherapy should be considered for those in the low-mortality-score stratum.

# How it has changed my practice

- I start with two drugs in sick patients at risk for CRE, typically colistin with a second agent
- Single drug enough for more stable patients
- Many caveats:
  - MIC not looked at
  - Very few NDM-1

## Newer $\beta$ -Lactam/ $\beta$ -Lactamase Inhibitor for Multidrug-Resistant Gram-Negative Infections: Challenges, Implications and Surveillance Strategy for India

Balaji Veeraraghavan, Agila Kumari Pragasam, Yamuna Devi Bakthavatchalam, Shalini Anandan, V Ramasubramanian<sup>1</sup>, Subramanian Swaminathan<sup>2</sup>, Ram Gopalakrishnan<sup>1</sup>, Rajeev Soman<sup>3</sup>, O C Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Vinod C Ohri<sup>5</sup>, Kamini Walia<sup>6</sup>

**Table 6: New  $\beta$ -lactam/ $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor to India specific Gram-negative organism, will it be beneficial?**

$\beta$ -lactam/ $\beta$ LI	FDA approval/Indications	Infusion length/renal dose adjustment	Spectrum of activity against MDR Gram-negative organism	Remarks to Indian specific AMR scenario
Ceftazidime-avibactam	Approved/cIAI, UTI, pneumonia/2.5 g IV q8h	2 h/Yes, (CrCl, mL/min) >50 (2.5g q8h) 31-50 (1.25g q8h) 16-30 (0.94g q12h) 6-15 (0.94g q24h) $\leq 5$ (0.94g q48h)	AmpC, ESBL, and KPC producers, and some OXA-48, but not active against MBLs (NDM, VIM, IMP, VEB, PER), or <i>Acinetobacter</i> OXA-type carbapenemases	High burden of NDM and OXA-48 producing Gram-negative bacilli
Ceftolozane-tazobactam	Approved/cIAI and cUTI/1.5 g (1 g ceftolozane and 0.5 g tazobactam) IV q8h	2 h/Yes, (CrCl, mL/min) >50 (1.5g q8h) 30-50 (750 mg q8h) 15-29 (375 mg q8h) ESRD on HD (750 mg $\times$ 1 then 150 mg q8h)	AmpC, ESBL, and MDR <i>P. aeruginosa</i> , but not active against carbapenemases	Higher percentage of ESBL and carbapenemase co-producers
Meropenem-relebactam	FDA approved/cUTI/4g (2 g of meropenem + 2 g of vaborbactam) IV q8h	3 h/yes, (CrCl, mL/min) >50 (4 g q8h) 30-49 (2g q8h) 15-29 (2g q12h) <15 (1g q2h)	AmpC, ESBL, and KPC producing <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> but not for most <i>A. baumannii</i> and <i>P. aeruginosa</i>	High prevalence of NDM, OXA-48 and OXA-51 producers
Aztreonam-avibactam	Not approved (in pipeline)/cIAI and pneumonia	NA	KPC and AmpC-producing <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> , MBLs, but not against <i>A. baumannii</i>	May be suitable for treating carbapenem-resistant <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> and MDR <i>P. aeruginosa</i>
Imipenem-relebactam	Not approved (Phase III trial)/cIAI and cUTI	NA	AmpC, ESBL, KPC-producers but not against OXA-48 <i>K. pneumoniae</i> , MBLs, and AmpC and OXA-51 <i>A. baumannii</i>	High prevalence of OXA-48 + MBL + AmpC co-producers

# Ceftazidime-avibactam

- Combines the anti-Pseudomonal activity of ceftazidime with avibactam
- Renders it active versus ESBLs and serine beta-lactamases such as KPC-2
- 93% of OXA-48 sensitive
- **Not active against NDM-1 and other MBLs, poor for Acinetobacter, no anaerobic activity**
- Side effects include vomiting, nausea, constipation and anxiety
- Initially approved for cIAI, in combination with metronidazole and complicated urinary tract infections (cUTI), now for HAP and VAP
- As good as comparator including carbapenems vs UTI/IAI caused by ceftazidime resistant bacteria (Lancet ID, 20 April, 2016)
- Non-inferior to meropenem for VAP (Lancet ID Vol 18, No. 3, p285–295, March 2018)
- Avibactam is a potent, competitive, reversible inhibitor of the L2 beta-lactamase of *S maltophilila*, used for treatment with aztreonam (*Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 2017 Oct 1)
- High rates of resistance to CAZ-AVI vs NDM-1 *Enterobacteriaceae* species (Clin Infect Dis. (2016)doi: 10.1093/cid/ciw398)
- Combined off label with aztreonam for NDM-1

# Ceftazidime-Avibactam works well for OXA 48

- In this prospective study evaluating 57 patients with CRE infections mediated by OXA 48, Ceftazidime-avibactam was used as a monotherapy in most of the patients (81%).
- Almost half the patients had severe infection (defined as presence of sepsis or septic shock). The most frequent sources of infection were intra-abdominal (28%), followed by respiratory (26%) and urinary (25%).
- Mortality at 14 days was 14%.
- In multivariate analysis, the only mortality risk factor was INCREMENT-CPE score >7 (HR 11.7, 95% CI 4.2–20.6).
- This real time data provides further confidence to use this agent in infections due to OXA 48 CRE.

# Colistin Versus Ceftazidime-Avibactam in the Treatment of Infections Due to Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacteriaceae

- IPTW-adjusted all-cause hospital mortality 30 days after starting treatment was 9% versus 32%, respectively (difference, 23%; 95% bootstrap confidence interval, 9%–35%;  $P = .001$ ).
- patients treated with ceftazidime-avibactam, compared with those treated within colistin, had an IPTW-adjusted probability of a better outcome of 64% (95% confidence interval, 57%-71%)
- Partial credit analyses indicated uniform superiority of ceftazidime-avibactam to colistin.
- Very useful agent to spare colistin and to treat colistin resistant Enterobacteriaceae which produce KPC-2

# Role of CAZ-AVI in Indian scenario

- Can't use for empiric monotherapy for HAI as no Acineto and CR E coli coverage
- Can use for CR Kleb only if
  - DST shows susceptibility or
  - OXA-48 on molecular testing



# Meropenem-vaborbactam approved by US FDA

- U.S. FDA approved for adults with complicated urinary tract infections (cUTI).
- Designated as a qualified infectious disease product (QIDP).
- Consists of 2g meropenem and 2g vaborbactam
- All anti-Pseudomonal activity based on meropenem alone
- Comparatively meropenem-vaborbactam, approximately 98 percent of patients treated with meropenem-vaborbactam compared with approximately 94 percent of patients treated with piperacillin/tazobactam, responded
- most common adverse reactions: headache, infusion site reactions and diarrhea.
- comparable activity against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Acinetobacter* spp., and *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia* ([AAC 2017; 61: e00567](#)).
- Active against KPC-2 carbapenemases **but not against NDM-1 or OXA type carbapenemases seen in India.**
- Trial vs standard of care for KPC-2 stopped early because of superior outcome.
- Role in India limited

# Imipenem-relebactam US FDA approved

- indicated for patients who have limited or no alternative treatment options for cUTIs, including acute pyelonephritis, and cIAls caused by specified gram-negative bacteria, including CRE
- risk for central nervous reactions
- should avoid concomitant use with anti-seizure drugs (e.g., valproic acid or divalproex sodium)

# Plazomicin

- Plazomicin is an sisomicin-derived aminoglycoside that was developed to be active vs most AG modifying enzymes
- Once-daily plazomicin 15 mg/kg was noninferior to meropenem for the treatment of complicated UTIs and acute pyelonephritis caused by Enterobacteriaceae, including multidrug-resistant strains (NEJM 2019; 380:729-740).
- has been evaluated in two Phase 3 clinical trials, EPIC and CARE.
- approved by the US FDA for treatment of complicated UTI but not bacteremia
- expanded activity primarily against carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae, including *K. pneumoniae* carbapenemase producers, some metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase-producers, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, and *Acinetobacter* spp.
- Unfortunately most **MBL producers have a methylase** that inactivates it

# Eravacycline approved for IAI

- **tetracycline** derivative
- antibacterial spectrum includes many highly resistant gram negatives (including some CRE and acinetobacter), MRSA, VRE, and anaerobes.
- *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is an important exception to its broad coverage.
- The drug's approval was based primarily on clinical trials demonstrating **non-inferiority to ertapenem in intra-abdominal infections**
- **Less GI side effects than tigecycline**

# FDA Approves Omadacycline for CABP and ABSSSI

- Omadacycline is a new-generation tetracycline, dosed once daily in both oral and intravenous forms, that was designed to subvert common tetracycline resistance mechanisms, including efflux and ribosomal protection.
- Among gram-positive bacteria, it exhibits excellent in vitro activity against methicillin-susceptible and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MIC<sub>90</sub>, 0.5 mg/L), vancomycin-susceptible and vancomycin-resistant enterococci (MIC<sub>90</sub>, 0.5 mg/L), penicillin-susceptible and penicillin-resistant *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (MIC<sub>90</sub>, 0.12 mg/L), and beta-hemolytic and viridans streptococci (MIC<sub>90</sub>, 0.12 mg/L).
- Among gram-negative bacteria, activity is excellent against *Haemophilus influenzae* (MIC<sub>90</sub>, 2.0 mg/L), and *Escherichia coli* (MIC<sub>90</sub>, 2.0 mg/L).
- However, activity in vitro is less reliable against other gram-negatives and activity is generally poor against the “MP3” group (*Morganella*, *Providencia*, *Proteus*, and *Pseudomonas* spp.), with MIC<sub>90</sub> ≥32 mg/L.
- Consistent with the tetracycline class, activity against atypical pathogens (e.g., *Legionella*, *Mycoplasma*) is excellent.
- Among anaerobes, activity is less reliable against gram-negatives (e.g. *Bacteroides*) than gram-positives (*Clostridium*, *Peptostreptococcus*).

# 10 × '20 Progress—Development of New Drugs Active Against Gram-Negative Bacilli: An Update From the Infectious Diseases Society of America

**Table 3.**

Intravenous Antimicrobials Active Against Gram-Negative Bacilli in Advanced (Phase 2 or 3) Clinical Development<sup>a</sup>

Product	Class (Mechanism of Action)	Novel Mechanism of Action?	Status	Activity Targets							
				Enterobacteriaceae			<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>			<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp	
				ESBL	sCBP	mCBP	WT	MDR	mCBP	WT	MDR
1 Ceftolozane/taxobactam (CXA-201; CXA-101/tazobactam)	Antipseudomonal cephalosporin/BLI combination (cell wall synthesis inhibitor)	No	Phase 3 (cUTI, cIAI)	Yes	No	No	Yes	IE	No	No	No
2 Ceftazidime-avibactam (ceftazidime/NXL104)	Antipseudomonal cephalosporin/BLI combination (cell wall synthesis inhibitor)	No	Phase 3 (cIAI)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	IE	No	No	No
3 Ceftaroline-avibactam (CPT-avibactam; ceftaroline/NXL104)	Anti-MRSA cephalosporin/ BLI combination (cell wall synthesis inhibitor)	No	Phase 2 (cUTI, cIAI)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No
4 Imipenem/MK-7655	Carbapenem/BLI combination (cell wall synthesis inhibitor)	No	Phase 2 (cUTI, cIAI)	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	IE	No	IE	No
5 Plazomicin (ACHN-490)	Aminoglycoside (protein synthesis inhibitor)	No	Phase 2 (cUTI)	Yes <sup>b</sup>	Yes <sup>b</sup>	IE	No	No	No	No	No
6 Eravacycline (TP-434)	Fluorocycline (protein synthesis inhibitor targeting the ribosome)	No	Phase 2 (cIAI)	Yes <sup>b</sup>	Yes	IE	No	No	No	IE	IE
7 Brilacidin (PMX-30063)	Peptide defense protein mimetic (cell membrane disruption)	Yes?	Phase 2 (ABSSSI)	Yes	IE	IE	IE	IE	IE	No	No

# Cefiderocol: the next blockbuster?

- Goes through iron transport channels, escapes beta lactamases in periplasmic space (Trojan horse)
- siderophore cephalosporin cefiderocol, which has high stability against most  $\beta$ -lactamases, including serine- and metallo-carbapenemases.
- High activity with low MIC<sub>50</sub> and MIC<sub>90</sub> values against Enterobacteriaceae strains producing either one or the other, or both, of extended spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamases and KPC-, OXA-48-, NDM-, VIM-, and IMP-carbapenemases
- Only 24 of the 753 multiresistant isolates (3%) showed a cefiderocol MIC  $\geq 8$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ .
- Carbapenemase-producing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were susceptible to cefiderocol and colistin only.
- Similarly, for carbapenemase-producing *Acinetobacter baumannii*, only cefiderocol, colistin, and tigecycline retained activity.

# Therapy of CR Klebsiella: my recommendations

- First decide whether true infection or colonization
- Remove lines, do source reduction
- Ask for a molecular test such as Carba R
- Use ceftazidime-avibactam if KPC-2 or OXA-48
- For others, colistin is the cornerstone
- Fosfomycin is an option if sensitive
- Start with colistin based combination therapy empirically in sick patients:
  - 200 mg tigecycline
  - high dose carbapenem if MIC 4-16
  - Fosfomycin
  - Ceftazidime-avibactam
- Continue combination therapy if IET was correct in patients with high INCREMENT score
- Add anything else found sensitive eg chloramphenicol, amikacin
- Look at MICs rather than just sensitive vs resistant
- Pray!



## SPECIAL ARTICLE

International Consensus Guidelines for the Optimal Use  
of the Polymyxins:

Endorsed by the American College of Clinical Pharmacy  
(ACCP), European Society of Clinical Microbiology and  
Infectious Diseases (ESCMID), Infectious Diseases  
Society of America (IDSA), International Society for Anti-  
infective Pharmacology (ISAP), Society of Critical Care  
Medicine (SCCM), and Society of Infectious Diseases  
Pharmacists (SIDP)<sup>†</sup>

Pharmacotherapy  
2019;39(1):10–39

# Colistin vs Polymyxin B

Colistin preferred for UTI,  
nebulisation, intrathecal therapy

## Polymyxin B preferred for others

- Polymyxin B - Reaches therapeutic concentration faster
- CMS to colistin conversion variable
- Polymyxin B ? Less nephrotoxic
- Polymyxin B does not require renal adjustments

Pharmacotherapy 2019;39(1):10–39

# Carbapenem resistant Acinetobacter treatment

Polymyxin and at least one other antibiotic sensitive

- Polymyxins should be used in combination therapy

Only Polymyxin sensitive

- Panel voted 8 – 7 in favour of monotherapy

Pharmacotherapy 2019;39(1):10–39

CRE –  
Polymyxin  
alone or  
in  
combination ?

Polymyxin and at least one other antibiotic sensitive

- Polymyxins should be used in combination therapy

Only Polymyxin sensitive

- panel voted 11-4 in favor of combination therapy
- Which non-susceptible agent ? – use the one with lowest MIC relative to their susceptibility breakpoint



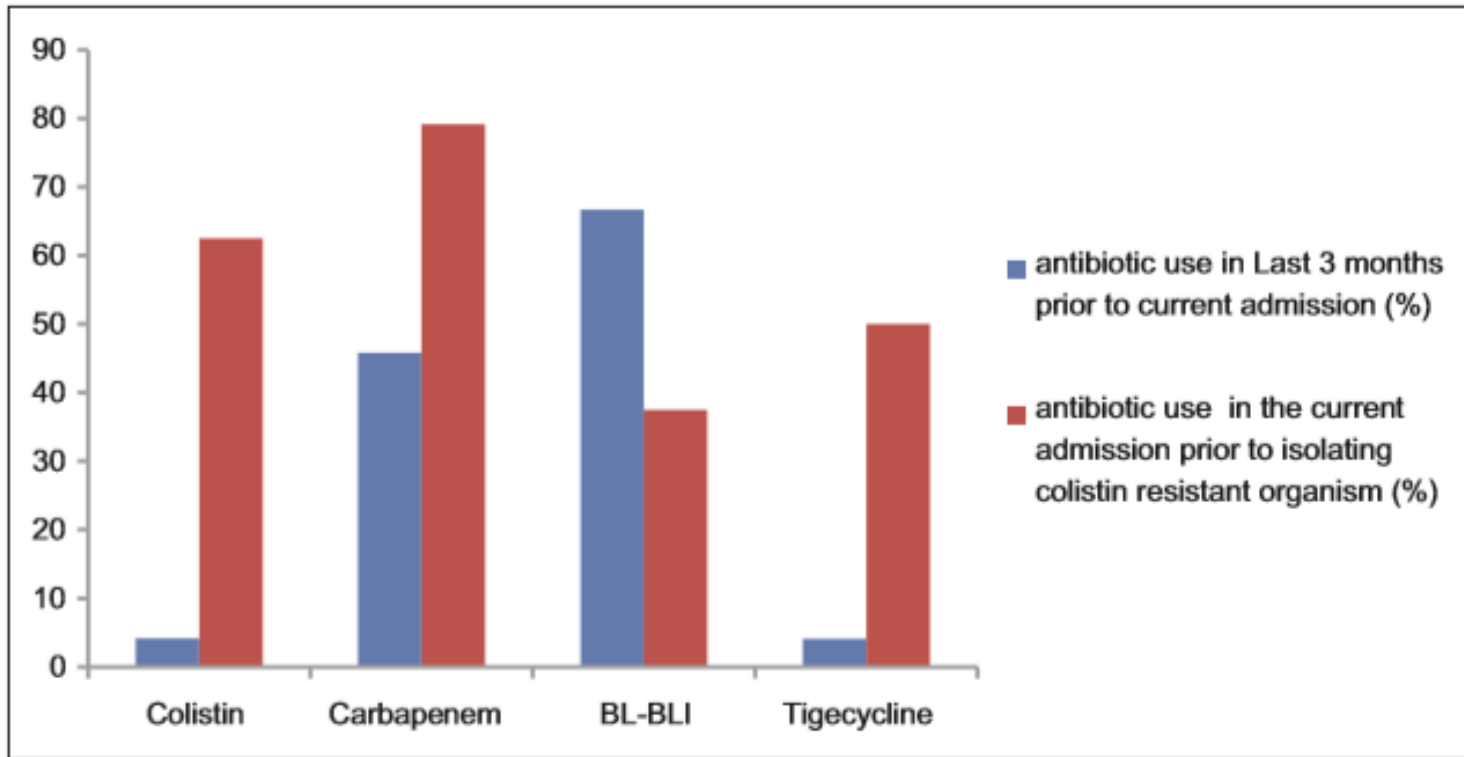
CCR GNB

# A Study of 24 Patients with Colistin-Resistant Gram-negative Isolates in a Tertiary Care Hospital in South India

Rajalakshmi Arjun, Ram Gopalakrishnan, P. Senthur Nambi, D. Suresh Kumar, R. Madhumitha, V. Ramasubramanian  
Department of Infectious Diseases, Apollo Hospitals, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

## Abstract

**Background:** As the use of colistin to treat carbapenem-resistant Gram-negative infections increases, colistin resistance is being increasingly reported in Indian hospitals. **Materials and Methods:** Retrospective chart review of clinical data from patients with colistin-resistant isolates (minimum inhibitory concentration >2 mcg/ml). Clinical profile, outcome, and antibiotics that were used for treatment were analyzed. **Results:** Twenty-four colistin-resistant isolates were reported over 18 months (January 2014–June 2015). A history of previous hospitalization within 3 months was present in all the patients. An invasive device was used in 22 (91.67%) patients. Urine was the most common source of the isolate, followed by blood and respiratory samples. *Klebsiella pneumoniae* constituted 87.5% of all isolates. Sixteen (66.6%) were considered to have true infection, whereas eight (33.3%) were considered to represent colonization. Susceptibility of these isolates to other drugs tested was tigecycline in 75%, chloramphenicol 62.5%, amikacin 29.17%, co-trimoxazole 12.5%, and fosfomycin (sensitive in all 4 isolates tested). Antibiotics that were used for treatment were combinations among the following antimicrobials-tigecycline, chloramphenicol, fosfomycin, amikacin, ciprofloxacin, co-trimoxazole, and sulbactam. Among eight patients who were considered to have colonization, there were no deaths. Bacteremic patients had a significantly higher risk of death compared to all nonbacteremic patients ( $P = 0.014$ ). **Conclusions:** Colistin resistance among Gram-negative bacteria, especially *K. pneumoniae*, is emerging in Indian hospitals. At least one-third of isolates represented colonization only rather than true infection and did not require treatment. Among patients with true infection, only 25% had a satisfactory outcome and survived to discharge. Fosfomycin, tigecycline, and chloramphenicol may be options for combination therapy.



**Figure 1:** Antibiotic exposure in the past 3 months

Serial number	APACHE score	Charlson index	Sample	Antibiotics used for treatment	Clearance on surveillance cultures	Outcome
1	22	6	Blood	Tigecycline + co-trimoxazole	Not checked	Expired
2	24	9	Blood	Tigecycline + ciprofloxacin	Not checked	Discharged
3	12	5	Blood	Chloramphenicol + fosfomycin + doripenem	Not checked	Expired
4	25	7	Blood	Tigecycline + chloramphenicol	Not checked	Expired
5	12	5	Blood	Tigecycline + ciprofloxacin	Cleared	Expired
6	16	3	Blood	Chloramphenicol + fosfomycin	Not checked	Expired
7	10	8	Urine	Chloramphenicol + fosfomycin	Cleared	Expired
8	25	1	Urine	Chloramphenicol + fosfomycin+ imipenem	Not checked	Discharged
9	4	7	Urine	Tigecycline + chloramphenicol + colistin	Not checked	Expired
10	15	1	Respiratory	Tigecycline + colistin	Not checked	Lost to follow-up
11	18	4	Respiratory	Tigecycline + colistin	Not checked	Lost to follow-up
12	25	7	Respiratory	Tigecycline + colistin	Not checked	Expired
13	12	7	Pus	Tigecycline	Not checked	Discharged
14	2	5	Pus	Tigecycline + co-trimoxazole	Not checked	Lost to follow-up
15	12	3	Pus	Tigecycline + amikacin + colistin	Not checked	Expired
16	9	7	CSF	Tigecycline + chloramphenicol + sulbactam	Not checked	Expired

CSF: Cerebrospinal fluid; APACHE: Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation

Arjun R, Gopalakrishnan R, Nambi P S, Kumar D S, Madhumitha R, Ramasubramanian V. A study of 24 patients with colistin-resistant Gram-negative isolates in a tertiary care hospital in South India. *Indian J Crit Care Med* 2017;21:317-21



## CONCLUSIONS

Colistin resistance among GNB, especially *K. pneumoniae*, is emerging in Indian hospitals. Recent hospitalization, prolonged current hospitalization (median of 24.5 days), presence of diabetes and CKD, use of invasive devices, and prior colistin exposure were all commonly seen. At least one-third of isolates represented colonization rather than true infection, highlighting the role of the clinician in making this distinction. Among patients with true infection, only 25% had a satisfactory outcome and survived to discharge, with bacteremia carrying an even poorer prognosis. Fosfomycin, tigecycline, and chloramphenicol may be options for combination therapy.



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## American Journal of Infection Control

journal homepage: [www.ajicjournal.org](http://www.ajicjournal.org)



### Brief Report

## Clinical outcome of dual colistin- and carbapenem-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* bloodstream infections: A single-center retrospective study of 75 cases in India

Amarjeet Kaur MD <sup>a</sup>, Sumanth Gandra MD <sup>b</sup>, Priyanka Gupta MBBS <sup>a</sup>, Yatin Mehta MD <sup>c</sup>,  
Ramanan Laxminarayan PhD <sup>b,d</sup>, Sharmila Sengupta MD <sup>a,\*</sup>

AJIC  
Sept 2017

93 cases of CCRKP BSI were identified.  
The overall in-hospital mortality rate for patients  
with CCRKP BSI was 69.3% (52/75)– 18 went AMA.

# Combination Therapy for High-Level Meropenem- and Colistin-Resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* Bacteremia

- 72 patients with resistant bacteremia
- Overall 30-day crude mortality was 25% with combination therapy and 44% with monotherapy.
- Use fosfomycin

# Take home message on monotherapy vs combination therapy for CR organisms

- No RCT data for the most part
- No studies focussed on NDM-1
- No clinical data that shows that emergency of resistance reduced
- Colistin remains the cornerstone
- Subgroup of patients with shock or neutropenia may benefit in subgroup analysis, use when probability of death high
- Benefit disappears when IAT eliminated
- Consider for septic shock, CRE with high mortality score
- Knowing the MIC of carbapenems crucial to their use in combination
- Pseudomonas: combination therapy only till sensitivities known, then monotherapy
- Acinetobacter: monotherapy if colistin sensitive
- CRE: empiric combination therapy with colistin in patients at high risk of death (high dose carbapenem, tigecycline, fosfomycin, ceftazidime-avibactam)

# Infectious Diseases Specialty Intervention Is Associated With Decreased Mortality and Lower Healthcare Costs

**Steven Schmitt,<sup>1</sup> Daniel P. McQuillen,<sup>2</sup> Ronald Nahass,<sup>3</sup> Lawrence Martinelli,<sup>4</sup> Michael Rubin,<sup>5</sup> Kay Schwebke,<sup>6</sup> Russell Petrak,<sup>7</sup> J. Trees Ritter,<sup>8</sup> David Chansolme,<sup>9</sup> Thomas Slama,<sup>10</sup> Edward M. Drozd,<sup>11</sup> Shamonda F. Braithwaite,<sup>11</sup> Michael Johnsrud,<sup>12</sup> and Eric Hammelman<sup>11</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Infectious Diseases, Medicine Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Ohio; <sup>2</sup>Center for Infectious Diseases and Prevention, Lahey Hospital & Medical Center, Tufts University School of Medicine, Burlington, Massachusetts; <sup>3</sup>ID Care, Hillsborough, New Jersey; <sup>4</sup>Covenant Health, Lubbock, Texas; <sup>5</sup>Divisions of Clinical Epidemiology and Infectious Diseases, University of Utah School of Medicine, Salt Lake City; <sup>6</sup>OptumInsight, Eden Prairie, Minnesota; <sup>7</sup>Metro ID Consultants, LLC, Burr Ridge, Illinois; <sup>8</sup>French Hospital Medical Center, San Luis Obispo, California; <sup>9</sup>Infectious Disease Consultants of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; <sup>10</sup>Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Indiana; <sup>11</sup>Data Analytics, and <sup>12</sup>Health Economics and Outcomes Research, Avalere Health, Washington, D.C.




Volume 5, Issue 3

March 2018

**Article Contents**

EDITOR'S CHOICE

## Infectious Diseases Consultation Reduces 30-Day and 1-Year All-Cause Mortality for Multidrug-Resistant Organism Infections

Jason P Burnham , Margaret A Olsen, Dustin Stwalley, Jennie H Kwon, Hilary M Babcock, Marin H Kollef

*Open Forum Infectious Diseases*, Volume 5, Issue 3, 1 March 2018, ofy026,  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/ofid/ofy026>

**Published:** 15 March 2018 **Article history ▼**

- ID consultation was significantly associated with reductions in 30-day and 1-year mortality for
- resistant *S. aureus* (hazard ratio [HR], 0.48 & HR, 0.73)
- *Enterobacteriaceae* (HR, 0.41 and HR, 0.74)



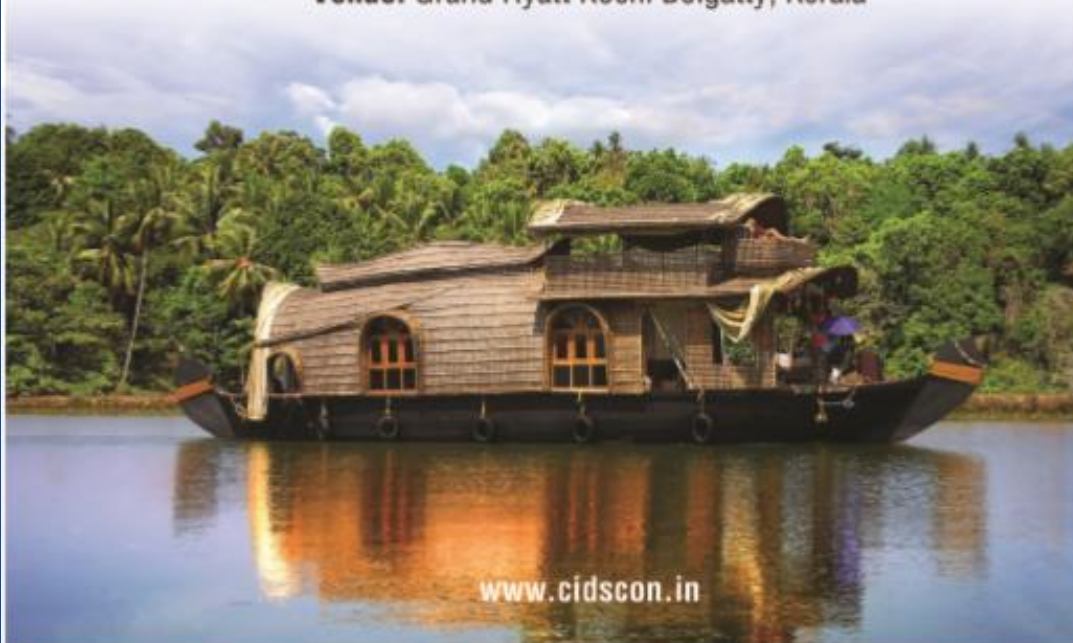
# CIDSCON 2019

9<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of  
Clinical Infectious Diseases Society

23<sup>rd</sup> | 24<sup>th</sup> | 25<sup>th</sup> August 2019, Kochi

**Theme:** Simplifying the evidence- the next step for progress in Infectious Diseases

**Venue:** Grand Hyatt Kochi Bolgatty, Kerala



[www.cidskon.in](http://www.cidskon.in)





# CLINICAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES SOCIETY

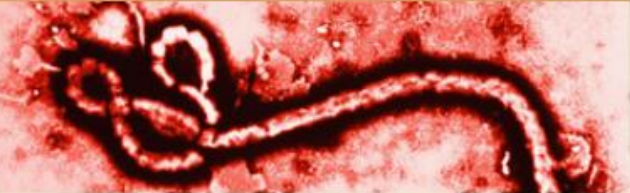
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- ABOUT US
- AWARDS
- MEMBERSHIP
- EVENTS
- EDUCATION & TRAINING
- PUBLICATIONS
- CONTACT
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## MISSION

Our mission is to fight against Infectious Diseases in India by educating health care professionals, sharing new knowledge, advancing research, and advocating the highest quality care for patients.

### ID News - September 2018



**Eravacycline FDA approved**

The US FDA has approved eravacycline to treat "complicated intra-abdominal infections, providing a new option to combat the growing threat from ... [more...](#)

**US-FDA warning: increased risk of Fournier's gangrene with SGLT2 inhibitors**

The US-FDA has issued a warning regarding increased risk of Fournier's gangrene with use of ... [more...](#)

### Photo Quiz - September 2018



A 40/M presented with fever of over 5 months with loss of appetite and weight. TTE revealed an echogenic mass of 1.4 X 0.4 cm on the aortic valve with aortic regurgitation & mitral regurgitation. Blood cultures grew ampicillin and gentamicin sensitive Enterococcus faecalis. He was initiated on intravenous vancomycin elsewhere. The patient subsequently developed acute kidney injury (AKI) with creatinine increasing to 6.6 mg%. On admission one month later, the patient had vomiting and fever <99°F. TTE showed persistent vegetations ... [more...](#)

### CIDS Events



## CIDSCON 2019

23 - 25 Aug 2019 | Kochi

**CIDS Endorsed meetings**

Infectious Diseases CME for Postgraduates

Dates: Dec 2018 | Place: Wheeler Hall, CMC Vellore

### Guideline watch - August 2018

### Chandra's corner - August 2018

### Challenging cases at CIDSCON



# Are you an MD/DNB (Internal Med) interested in an ID career?

## ▶ DM (Infectious Diseases)

- ▶ Three year program
- ▶ CMC, Vellore and AIIMS, New Delhi

## ▶ FNB (National Board of Examinations):

- Two year fellowship
- Apollo Hospitals Chennai, Hinduja Hospital Mumbai, Apollo Hyderabad, Sterling Hospital Ahmedabad
- For details go to NBE website

## ▶ Tamil Nadu Dr. MGR Medical University:

- Two year fellowship
- Global Hospitals Chennai and CMC, Vellore
- Contact institutions for details