



June 25, 2019

ampC vs ESBL

UTI

We recently had a patient who grew *Enterobacter cloacae* complex from a urine culture.

1. Is this an ESBL and/or AmpC overproducing organism?
2. Are others putting these patients in isolation for ESBL/AmpC and/or sending this organism out for confirmation testing?
3. Are you flagging their chart as ESBL/AmpC patients?



Enterobacter cloacae complex

| Drug | MIC | Interpretation |
|--------------------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Cefazolin (<i>1st gen</i>) | ≥ 64 | Resistant |
| Cefoxitin (<i>2nd gen</i>) | ≥ 64 | Resistant |
| Ceftazidime (<i>3rd gen</i>) | | Resistant |
| Ceftriaxone | ≥ 64 | Resistant |
| Ciprofloxacin | ≤ 0.25 | Sensitive |
| Gentamicin | ≤ 1 | Sensitive |
| Nitrofurantoin | 64 | Intermediate |
| Piperacillin-tazobactam | 8 | Sensitive |
| Tobramycin | ≤ 1 | Sensitive |
| Trimethoprim-Sulfamethoxazole | ≤ 20 | Sensitive |

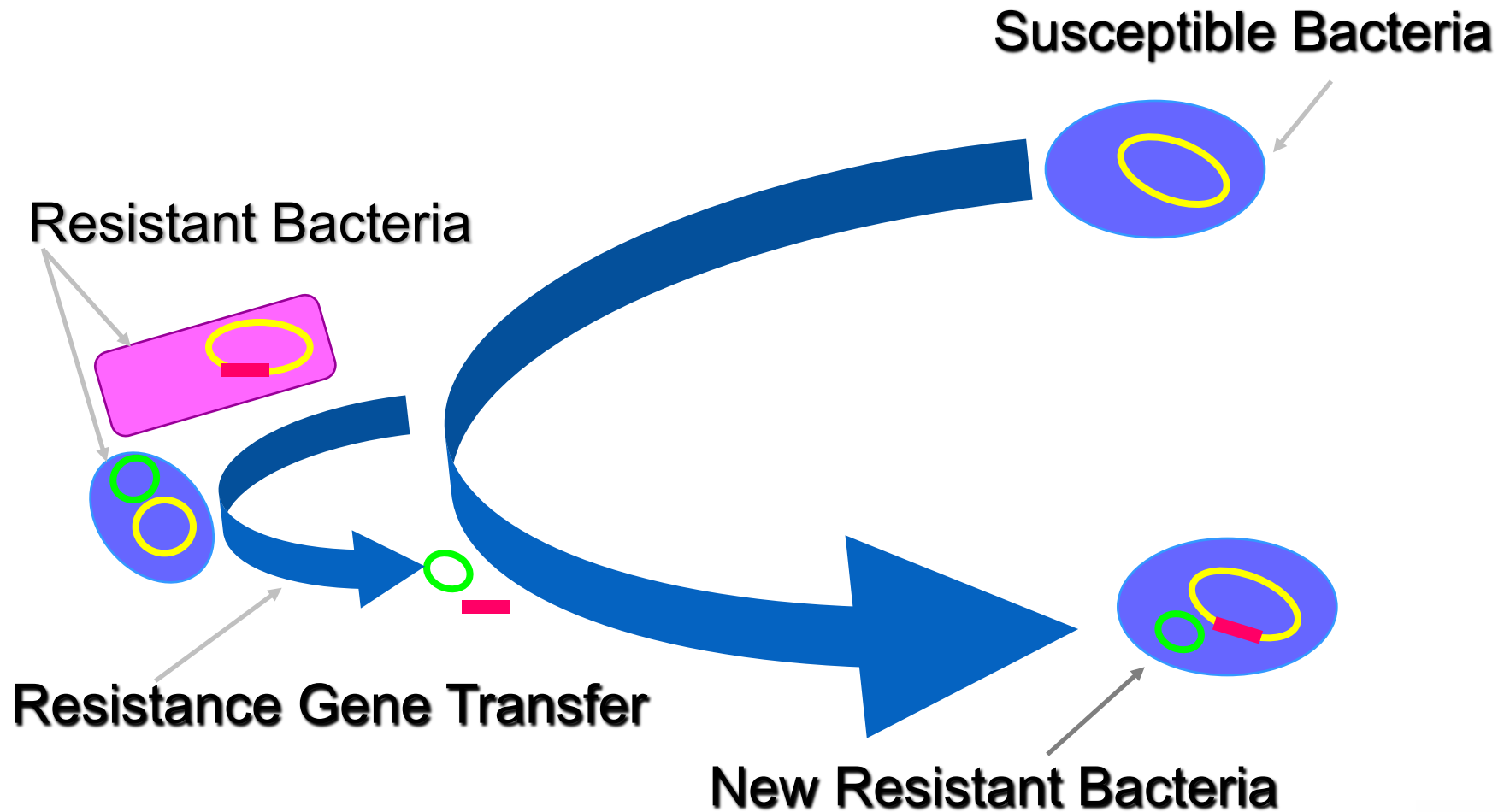


Beta-Lactamases

- Inactivate these antibiotics by splitting the amide bond of the beta-lactam ring.
- Encoded by either chromosomal or transferable genes located on plasmids and transposons.
- More than 600 beta-lactamases have been described!!!!



Emergence of Antimicrobial Resistance



Extended Spectrum β -Lactamases

- **Mechanism:** Drug Inactivation (Enzymes hydrolyze all β -lactams)
- Types: CTX-M, TEM, SHV, OXA
- Usually in *Klebsiella* spp. and *E.coli*... *but plasmid-encoded*



Laboratory Detection of ESBL

| MOA | ESBL |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Location | Plasmid |
| Inducible | NO |
| Bugs | <i>E.coli</i> , <i>Klebsiella</i> |
| 1 gen Ceph | R |
| 2 gen Ceph | S |
| 3 gen Ceph | R |
| 4 gen Ceph | R / S |
| Pip-tazo | S |
| Carbapenem | S |
| Aztreonam | R |

- Commonly shows 2nd generation cephs susceptibility
- Piperacillin-tazobactam often looks susceptible in-vitro but not used clinically
- Cefepime can look either susceptible or resistance depending the type (CTX-M, SHV, TEM)
- In general if an *E.coli* or *Klebsiella* species is resistant to ceftriaxone or ceftazidime, then consider it an ESBL



ampC

- Chromosomal enzymes that hydrolyze penicillins & 1-3rd generation cephalosporins
- The ampC gene is inducible via a complex pathway involving recycled cell-wall peptidoglycans.
- Selection/induction for the ampC β -lactamase varies by beta-lactam antibiotic used; stability of the antibiotic to the β -lactamase activity also varies
- Beta-lactamase inhibitors do not work against them
- No commercially available test for ampC



ampC organisms

- Serratia
- Enterobacter (new: *Klebsiella aerogenes*)
- Aeromonas
- Citrobacter
- Hafnai alvei
- Indole + Proteus (vulgaris)
- Morganella
- Pseudomonas, Providencia



Selection for ampC

| | Weak Inducer | Strong Inducer |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Stable against hydrolysis | Cefepime | Imipenem Meropenem |
| Unstable against hydrolysis | Ceftriaxone Ceftazidime Piperacillin Aztreonam | Penicillin Ampicillin Amoxicillin Cefazolin |

Even though carbapenems are strong inducers, they are stable against hydrolysis



Selection of ampC

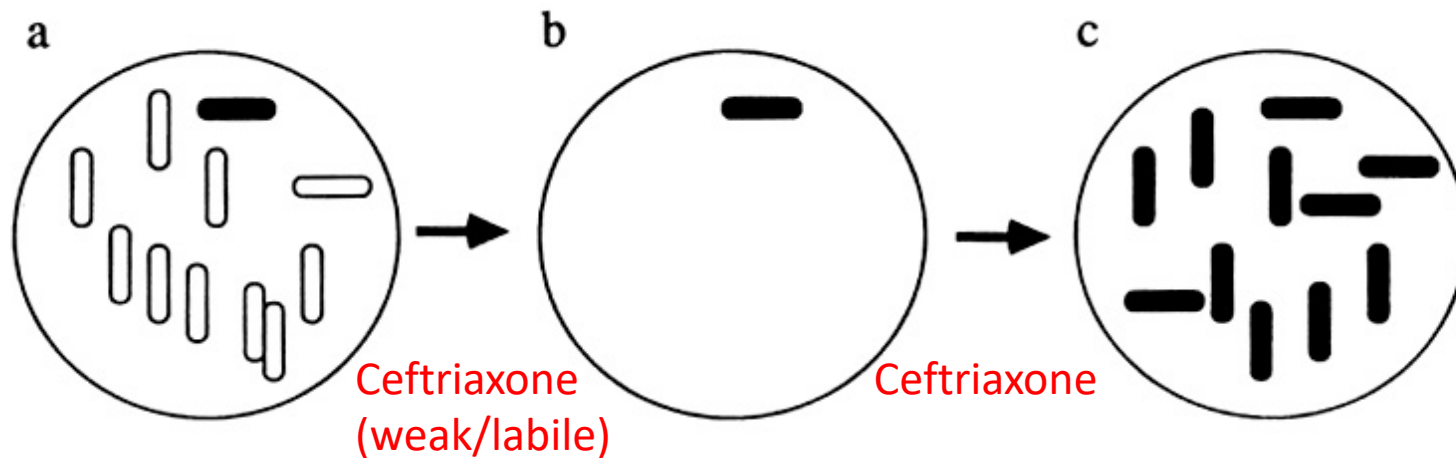


Fig. 1. Selection of a β -lactamase derepressed mutant. Stably derepressed cells are shown as **—**, inducible ones as **□**. Initially (a) the population contains a minority of derepressed mutants. However, (b) as the labile weak inducer acts, the inducible cells are killed whereas the derepressed cells survive and (c) grow until they dominate the microflora.

Ceftriaxone is able to eradicate most of the cells with repressed ampC BUT since it is labile to destruction by ampC it cannot eradicate the derepressed mutant and they MULTIPLY !

Comparison

| | ampC | ESBL | CPE |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Location | Chromosome | Plasmid | Plasmid |
| Bugs | “SEACHIMPK” | <i>E.coli, Klebsiella</i> | <i>Klebsiella, Enterobacteriaceae</i> |
| 1 gen Ceph | R | R | R |
| 2 gen Ceph | R | S | R / S |
| 3 gen Ceph | R | R | R |
| 4 gen Ceph | S | R / S | R |
| Piperacillin-tazobactam | R | S | R |
| Carbapenem | S | S | R |
| Aztreonam | R | R | R/S* |

*Sensitive for Metallo-beta-lactamases only



Treatment of ampC

Stewardship
recommends
cefepime over
meropenem!

The Use of Cefepime for Treating AmpC β -Lactamase–Producing Enterobacteriaceae

Pranita D. Tamma,¹ Sonya C. T. Girdwood,² Ravindra Gopaul,⁵ Tsigereda Tekle,³ Ava A. Roberts,³ Anthony D. Harris,⁶ Sara E. Cosgrove,⁴ and Karen C. Carroll³

¹Department of Pediatrics, Division of Infectious Diseases, ²Department of Medicine, ³Department of Pathology, Division of Medical Microbiology, and

⁴Department of Medicine, Division of Infectious Diseases, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions; and ⁵Department of Medicine and ⁶Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University of Maryland School of Medicine, Baltimore, Maryland

- ✓ Pt population: Hospitalized patients with blood, BAL or intra-abdominal fluid growing *Enterobacter* spp, *Serratia* spp or *Citrobacter* spp
- ✓ Compared treatment with cefepime with matched patients treated with meropenem
- ✓ No difference in 30-day mortality or length of hospital stay
- ✓ Treatment options: depends on susceptibility
- ✓ Often cefepime or meropenem but FQs are options often



Treatment of ESBL

- Carbapenems are the mainstay
 - but depends on the site of infection
 - AVOID piperacillin-tazobactam and cefepime
- Uncomplicated UTIs, depends on susceptibilities:
 - Nitrofurantoin or Fosfomycin are options

