

Staphylococcus aureus

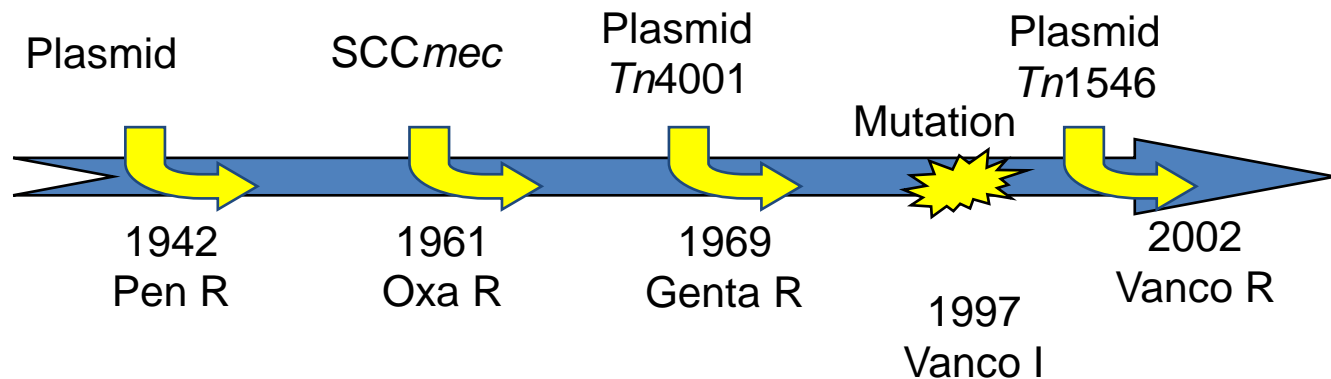
Olivier Denis

Université Libre De Bruxelles

Staphylococcus aureus

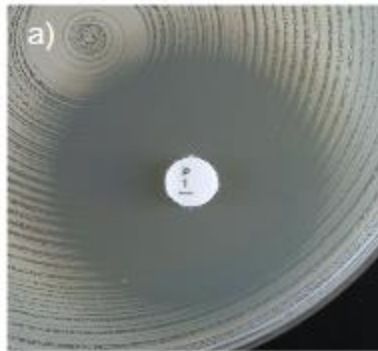


- Major opportunistic pathogen responsible for infections both in hospitals and in the community
- Clinical manifestations
 - Pyogenic infections : Skin and soft tissue infections to endocarditis
 - Toxin mediated diseases : SSSS, SFP, TSS
- Master of creating/picking up resistance determinants

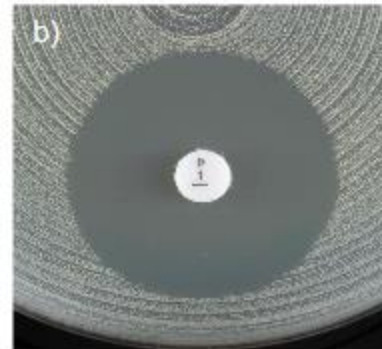


Penicillin resistance

- **Production of penicillinase**
 - Encoding by *blaZ*
 - Inhibited by clavulanic acid
 - Tested by cefinase test or by disk diffusion method
 - Difficult to detect in coagulase negative staphylococci



Susceptible

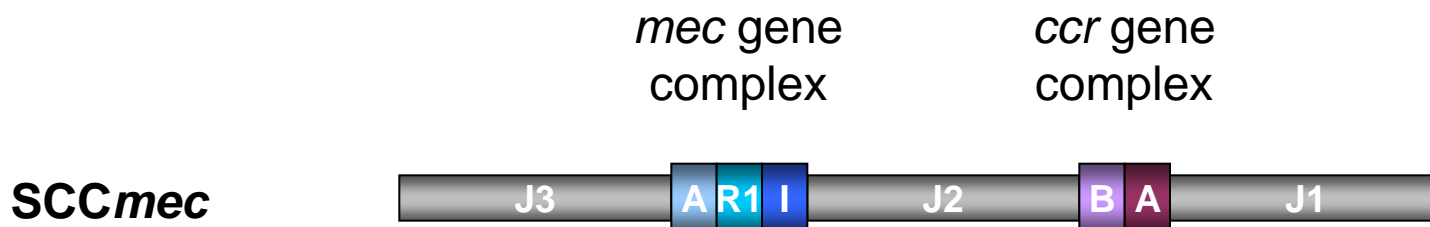


Resistant

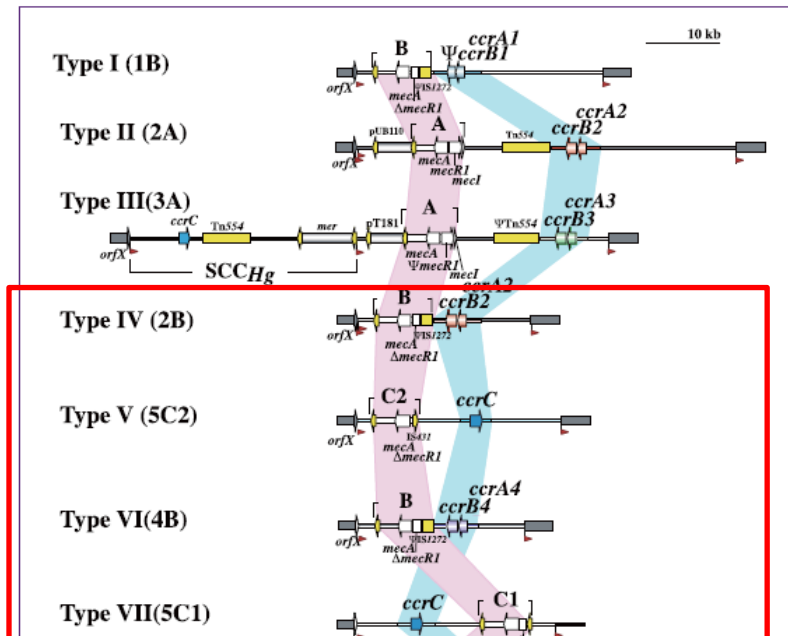
Examples of inhibition zones for *Staphylococcus aureus* with benzylpenicillin.
a) Fuzzy zone edge and zone diameter ≥ 26 mm. Report susceptible.
b) Sharp zone edge and zone diameter ≥ 26 mm. Report resistant.

Methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA)

- **Acquisition of *mec* gene encoding PBP2a**
 - PBP2a shows low affinity to β -lactams
 - **Cross-resistance** to all β -lactams, except for the novel anti-MRSA cephalosporins
 - Three different types described: *mecA*, (*mecB*), *mecC*
- **The *mec* gene is integrated into mobile genetic element**
 - Staphylococcal cassette chromosome *mec* (SCC*mec*)
 - Chromosomal insertion at the attB_{SCC} at the end of orfX
 - Often contain plasmids or transposons carrying resistance genes



Staphylococcal Cassette Chromosome *mec*



Classification according to

- **Types:** combination of *mec* and *ccr*
- **Variants:** difference into *junkyard regions*.

SCC <i>mec</i>	Type <i>ccr</i>	Type <i>mec</i>
I (1B)	1	A1B1
II (2A)	2	A2B2
III (3A)	3	A3B3



Novel Type XII Staphylococcal Cassette Chromosome *mec* Harboring a New Cassette Chromosome Recombinase, CcrC2

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Which penicillins to test for detection of methicillin resistance?

S. aureus with oxacillin MIC > 2 mg/l are mostly MRSA due to the presence of *mecA* gene

Staphylococcus spp.

EUCAST Clinical Breakpoint Tables v. 6.0, valid from 2016-01-01

Disk diffusion (EUCAST standardised disk diffusion method)
Medium: Mueller-Hinton agar
Inoculum: McFarland 0.5
Incubation: Air, 35±1°C, 18±2h
Reading: Read zone edges as the point showing no growth viewed from the back of the plate against a dark background illuminated with reflected light (except for benzylpenicillin and linezolid, see below).
Quality control: *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 29213

Penicillins ¹	MIC breakpoint (mg/L)		Disk content (µg)	Zone diameter breakpoint (mm)		Notes
	S ≤	R >		S ≥	R <	
Benzylpenicillin, <i>S. aureus</i>	0.125 ¹	0.125 ¹	1 unit	26 ^{A,B}	26 ^{A,B}	1/A. Most staphylococci are penicillinase producers, which are resistant to benzylpenicillin, phenoxymethylpenicillin, ampicillin, amoxicillin, piperacillin and ticarcillin. Isolates negative for penicillinase and susceptible to methicillin can be reported susceptible to these agents. Isolates positive for penicillinase and methicillin susceptible are susceptible to beta-lactamase inhibitor combinations and isoxazolylic penicillins (oxacillin, cloxacillin, dicloxacillin and flucloxacillin).
Benzylpenicillin, <i>S. lugdunensis</i>	0.125 ¹	0.125 ¹	1 unit	26 ^A	26 ^A	
Benzylpenicillin, Coagulase-negative staphylococci	-	-	-	Note ^C	Note ^C	2/C. No currently available method can reliably detect penicillinase production in coagulase-negative staphylococci. Methicillin resistant isolates are, with few exceptions, resistant to all beta-lactam agents.
Ampicillin, <i>S. saprophyticus</i>	Note ^{1,3}	Note ^{1,3}	2	18 ^{A,D}	18 ^A	
Ampicillin-sulbactam	Note ^{1,3}	Note ^{1,3}	-	Note ^{A,D}	Note ^{A,D}	3/D. Ampicillin susceptible <i>S. saprophyticus</i> are <i>mecA</i> -negative and susceptible to ampicillin, amoxicillin and piperacillin (without or with a beta-lactamase inhibitor).
Amoxicillin	Note ^{1,3}	Note ^{1,3}	-	Note ^{A,D}	Note ^{A,D}	
Amoxicillin-clavulanic acid	Note ^{1,3}	Note ^{1,3}	-	Note ^{A,D}	Note ^{A,D}	4. <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>S. lugdunensis</i> and <i>S. saprophyticus</i> with oxacillin MIC values >2 mg/L are mostly methicillin resistant due to the presence of the <i>mecA</i> or <i>mecC</i> gene. The corresponding oxacillin MIC for coagulase-negative staphylococci other than <i>S. saprophyticus</i> and <i>S. lugdunensis</i> is >0.25 mg/L.
Piperacillin	Note ^{1,3}	Note ^{1,3}	-	Note ^{A,D}	Note ^{A,D}	
Piperacillin-tazobactam	Note ^{1,3}	Note ^{1,3}	-	Note ^{A,D}	Note ^{A,D}	B. For <i>S. aureus</i> , disk diffusion is more reliable than MIC determination for detection of penicillinase producers, provided the zone diameter is measured AND the zone edge closely inspected (see pictures below). If the zone diameter is <26 mm, then report resistant. If the zone diameter is ≥26 mm AND the zone edge is sharp, then report resistant. If not sharp, then report susceptible and if uncertain, then report resistant. Chromogenic cephalosporin-based beta-lactamase tests do not reliably detect staphylococcal penicillinase.
Ticarcillin	Note ¹	Note ¹	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Ticarcillin-clavulanic acid	Note ¹	Note ¹	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Phenoxymethylpenicillin	Note ¹	Note ¹	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Oxacillin ⁴	Note ^{1,4}	Note ^{1,4}	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Cloxacillin	Note ¹	Note ¹	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Dicloxacillin	Note ¹	Note ¹	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Flucloxacillin	Note ¹	Note ¹	-	Note ^A	Note ^A	
Mecillinam (uncomplicated UTI only)	-	-	-	-	-	

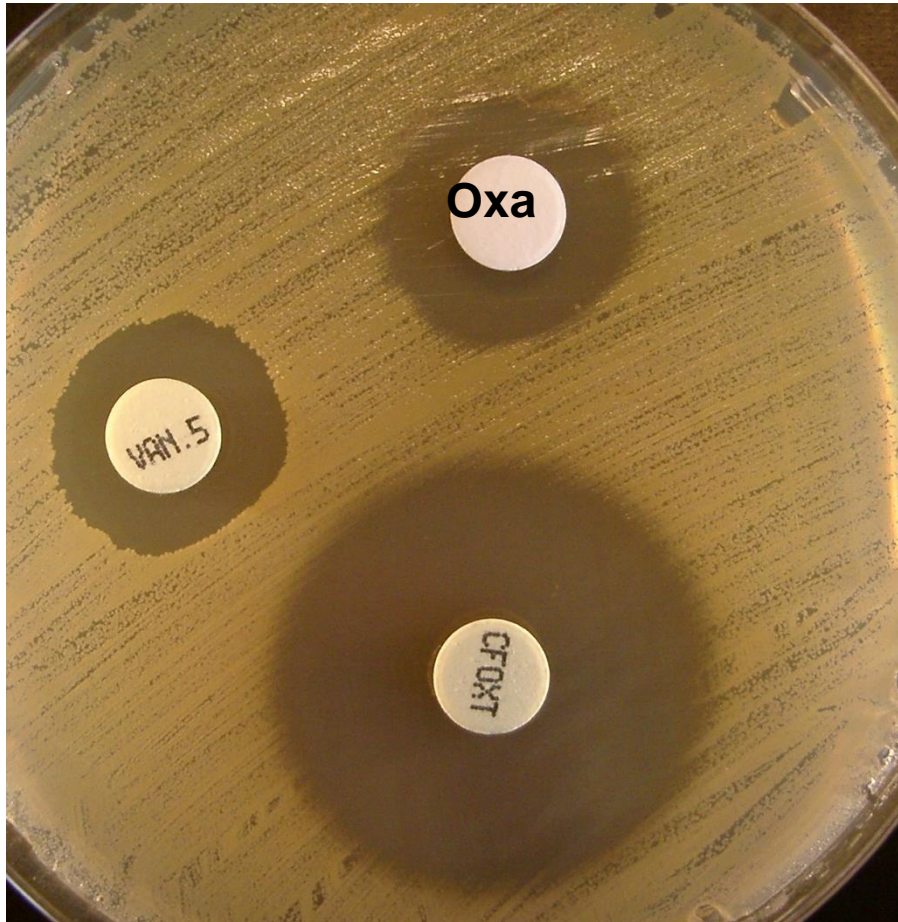
Which cephalosporins to test ?

- **Cefoxitin**

- Interpretation for all penicillins, cephalosporins and carbapenems with the exception of anti-MRSA cephalosporins (ceftaroline, ceftobiprole)
- Disk diffusion
- Interpretative criteria according to species

	Disk content			S ≥	R <
Cefoxitin (screen) , <i>S. aureus</i> , <i>S. lugdunensis</i> and <i>S. saprophyticus</i>	Note ³	Note ³	30	22 ^A	22 ^A
Cefoxitin (screen) , Coagulase-negative staphylococci other than <i>S. lugdunensis</i> and <i>S. saprophyticus</i>	Note ⁴	Note ⁴	30	25 ^A	25 ^A
Cefoxitin (screen) , <i>S. pseudintermedius</i>	Note ⁴	Note ⁴	30	35 ^A	35 ^A

- MIC values > 4 mg/l can be considered as methicilin-resistant
- Confirmation
 - PCR for *mecA* and *mecC* genes
 - PBP2a detection by immunochromatographic or latex assay



MSSA



Hetero -MRSA

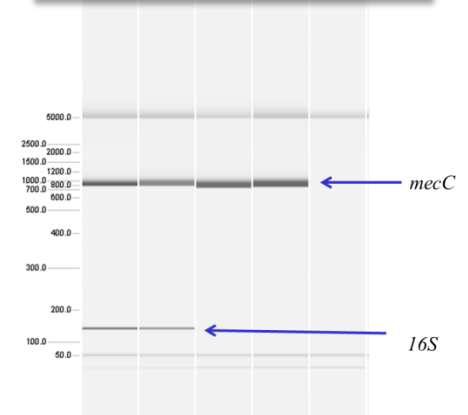
Methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* ?



CMI oxacillin : 6 mg/l
CMI cefoxitin : 24 mg/l

Negative PCR *mecA*

Positive PCR *mecC*



Less than 1% of MRSA sent to reference lab

Epidemiology and host range

mecC MRSA found in multiple host species across Europe



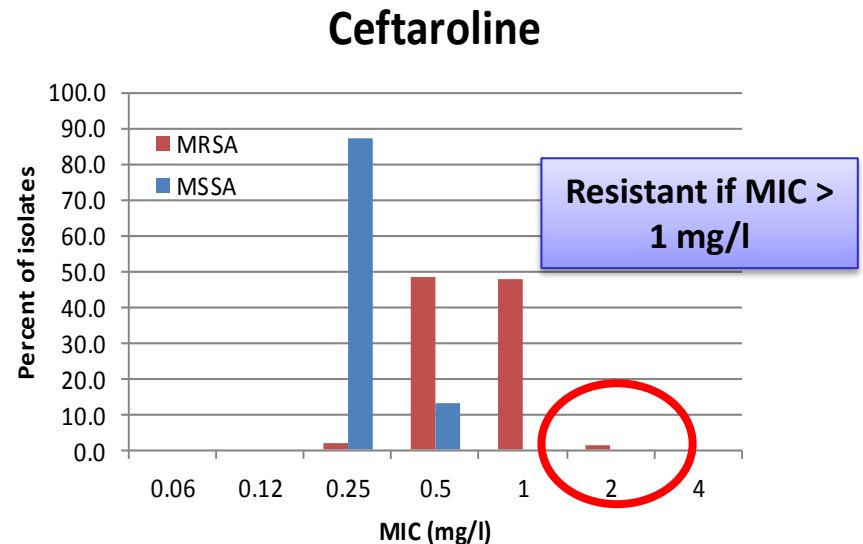
Anti-MRSA cephalosporins

Ceftaroline

- New anti-MRSA cephalosporin
- Increased affinity to PBP2a
- Low emergence of ceftaroline resistant *S. aureus*
 - From mutations in native pbp genes (PBP2 and PBP3) or *mecA*
 - Overexpression of pbp4 gene

Identification of non-PBP2a resistance mechanisms in *Staphylococcus aureus* after serial passage with ceftaroline: involvement of other PBPs

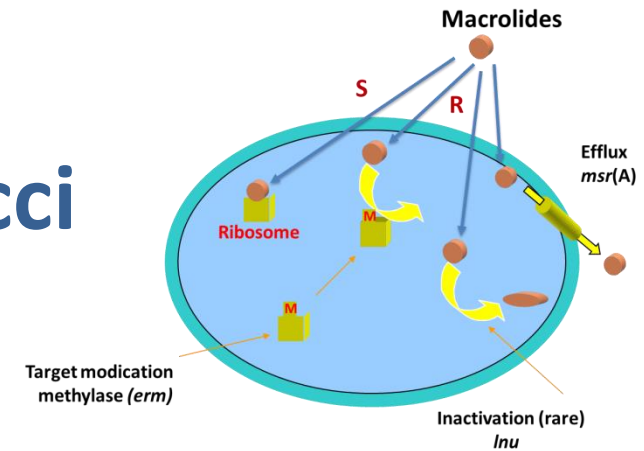
Sushmita D. Lahiri† and Richard A. Alm*†



Argudin M et al. JAC 2016

Lahiri SD JAC 2016

MLS resistance in staphylococci

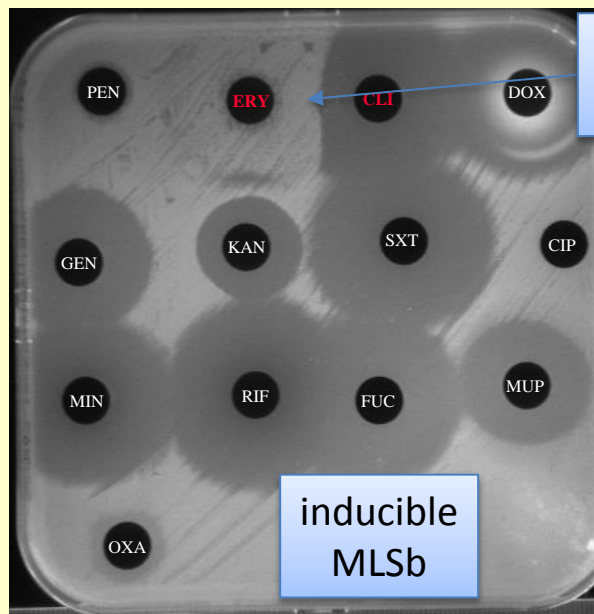
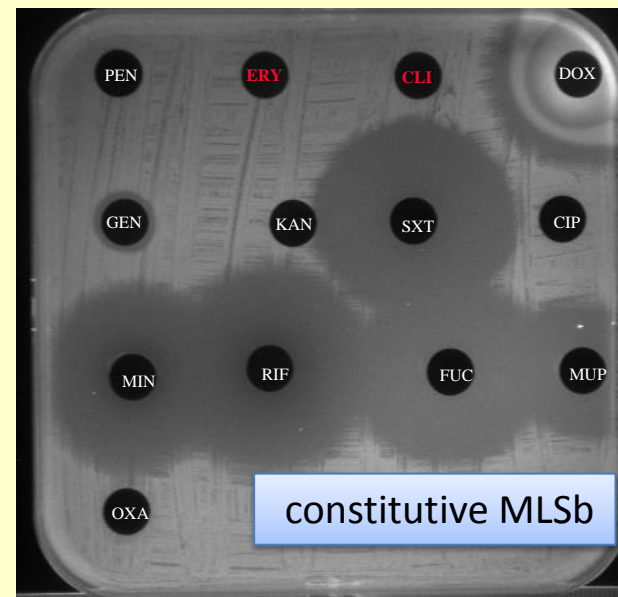


Genes	Mode of action	Resistance phenotype		
			Ery	Clinda
<i>ermA, ermC</i> (other <i>ermB</i> , <i>ermT</i>)	Target modification	MLSb _{i ou c}	R	R/s *
<i>msrA/B</i>	Efflux	M	R	S
<i>Inu</i> (rare)	Acetylation	L	S	R

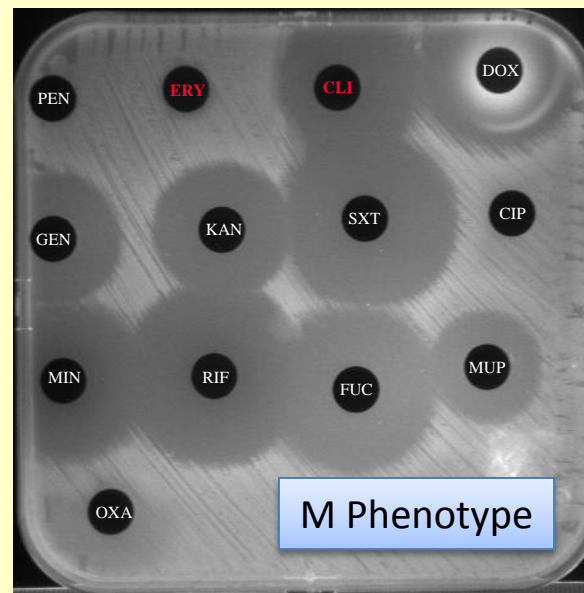
* According to the phenotype inducible or constitutive

Resistance phenotype to ML

If presence of antagonism between clindamycin and erythromycin, clindamycin should be reported as resistant



Antagonism



Aminoglycoside modifying enzymes

Genes	Resistance phenotype
aph(3')	Kana, amika*, isepa*
ant(4')	Kana, Tobra, amika*, isepa*
aac(6')-aph(2'')	Kana, Tobra, Genta, amika*, isepa*, netil*

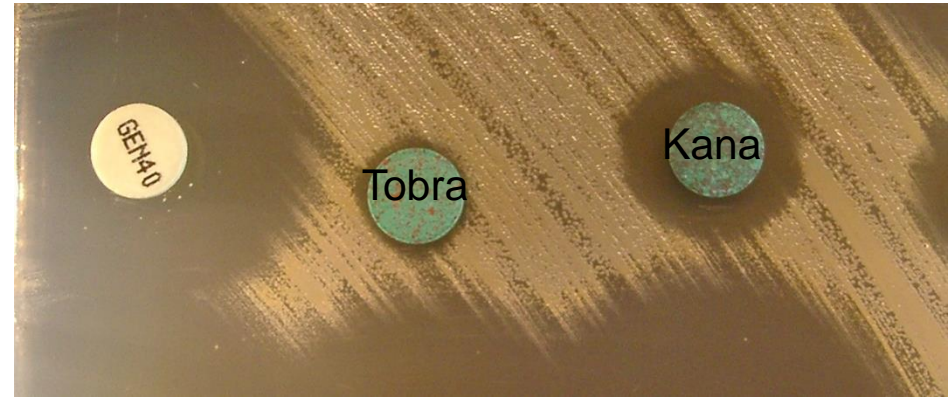
Resistance to amikacin is determined by using **kanamycin** (MIC > 8 mg/l)
Breakpoints are different between *S. aureus* and coagulase-negative staphylococci

Aminoglycosides resistance



Phenotype KTG

aac6'-aph2''



Phenotype KT

ant4'

Resistance to amikacin can be deduced by kanamycin resistance (MIC > 8 mg/L)



Phenotype K

aph3'

Vancomycin resistance in *Staphylococcus aureus*

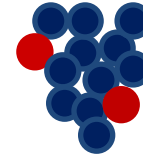
Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*
clinical strain with reduced vancomycin
susceptibility

J Antimicrob Chemother 1997; **40**: 135–136

K. Hiramatsu^{a*}, H. Hanaki^a, T. Ino^b, K. Yabuta^c,
T. Oguri^c and F. C. Tenover^d

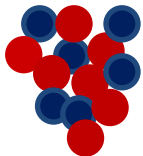


Susceptible population



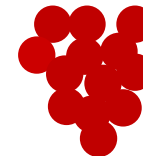
**Hetero low-level resistance
(hVISA)**

Heterogenous population
 10^{-6} to 10^{-9} resistant bacteria



**Low-level resistance
(VISA)**

Homogenous population



**High resistance
(VRSA)**

Homogenous population

Glycopeptide breakpoints for *Staphylococci*, 2016

	MIC (mg/L) for					
	Vancomycin			Teicoplanin		
	S	I	R	S	I	R
EUCAST for <i>S. aureus</i>	≤2		>2	≤2		>2
EUCAST for CoNS	≤4		>4	≤4		>4
CLSI for <i>S. aureus</i>	≤2	4-8	≥16	≤8	16	≥32
CLSI for CoNS	≤4	8-16	≥32	idem		

Low level resistance

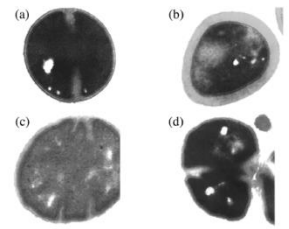


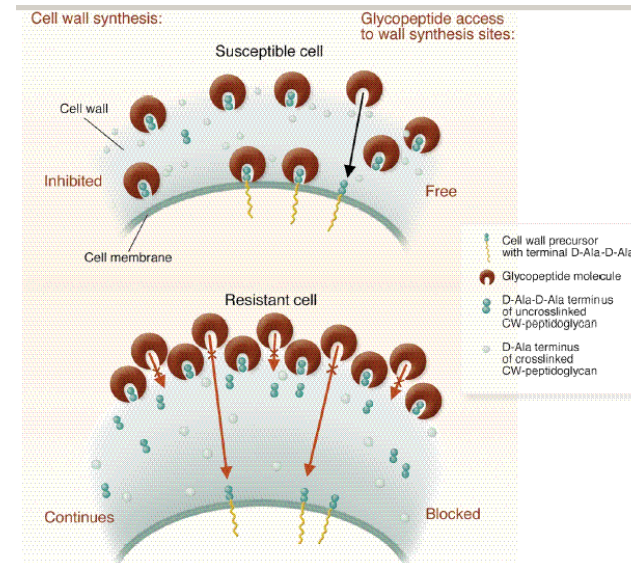
Figure 3. Transmission electron micrographs of (a) *S. aureus* ATCC 29213, (b) VISA strain PIV44, (c) hetero-VISA strains PIV69 and (d) MRSA P9575. Magnification $\times 60,000$.

- **Genetic environment**
 - Multiple point mutations leading to modified peptidoglycans synthesis
 - No *van* genes and not linked to methicillin resistance
- **↑ Thickness of cell wall**
 - ↑ synthesis of peptidoglycan, ↓ autolytic activity, ↑ residues D-Alanyl-D-Alanine
- **Absorption of GLYCOPEPTIDES** into bacterial cell wall before external membrane surface

⇒ **Low level resistance and reversible**

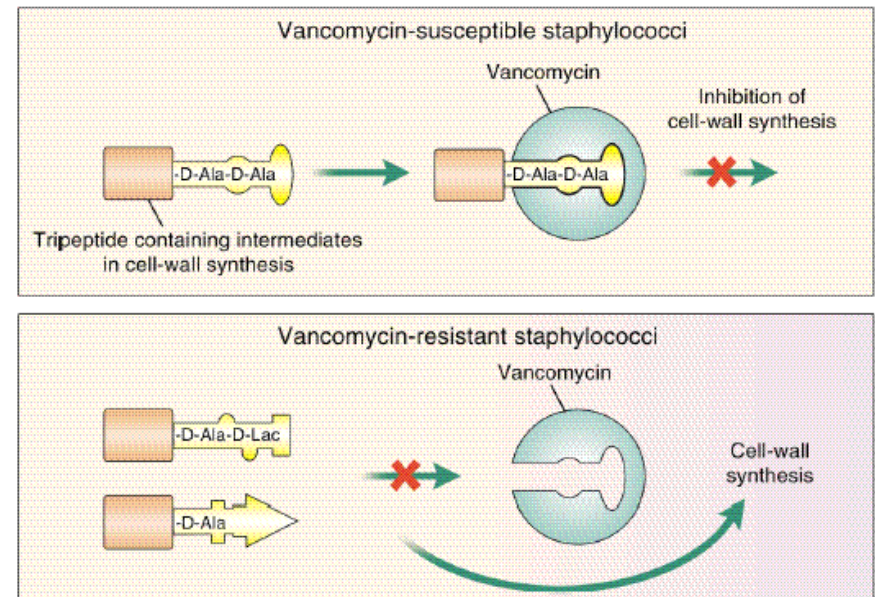
Teicoplanin > vancomycin

MIC to vancomycin 4 – 8 mg/L



Mechanism of high level resistance

- Transfer of Tn1546 carrying *vanA* **gene**
 - *E. faecalis* \Rightarrow *S. aureus*
- Modification of peptidoglycan synthesis
 - Substitution of D-Ala-D-Ala by D-Ala-D-Lac
 - $\downarrow\downarrow$ affinity to vancomycin 10^3
- High level resistance
 - Vancomycin \gg teicoplanin
 - MIC vancomycin > 16 -256 mg/l



- Frequency
 - Only about 30 cases reported from USA, India, Iran, Brazil and Portugal

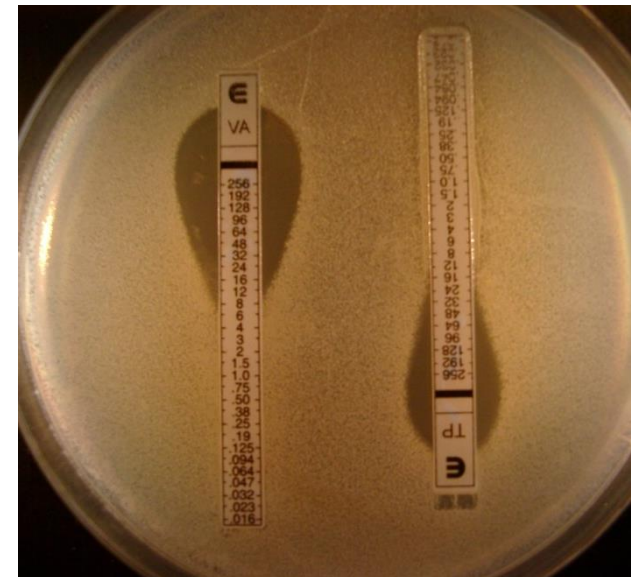
Challenge for detection of glycopeptide resistance in *Staphylococci*

- **Disk diffusion**
 - Cannot be used for (h-)GISA
- **Detection of (h-)GISA**
 - As proven difficult
 - Divided into screening and confirmation
 - Screening: macromethods, GRD, agar screen
 - Reversible phenotype

MIC determination for GISA and GRSA

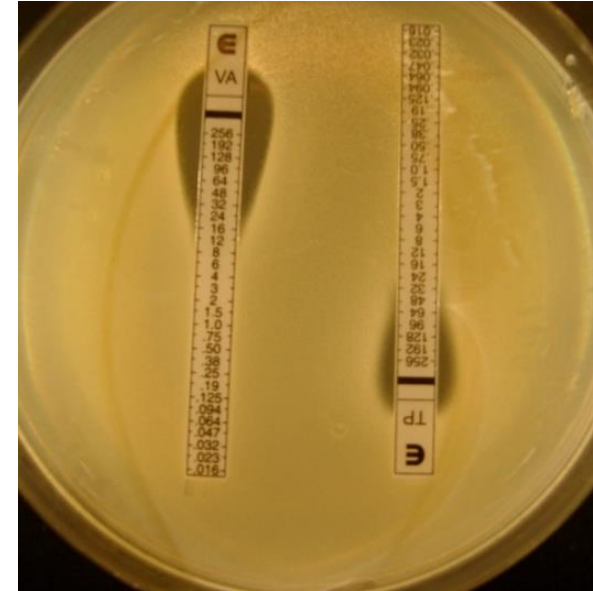
- **Broth microdilution = gold standard**
- **May also be determined by**
 - Gradient strip methods (E-test), agar dilution and automated systems
 - E-tests show MICs with 0.5-1 two-fold dilution steps higher than broth microdilution
 - Isolates with MICs >2 mg/L should be confirmed

HIP5827



Screening method for GISA

- **Macromethod**
 - Should not be reported as MICs
 - Does not differentiate between hGISA and GISA
 - High inoculum (2,0 McF) on BHI agar for 48h
- **GISA detection by gradient test**
 - Double strip vancomycin and teicoplanin
 - 0.5 McF on MH agar for 24 and 48h



Laboratory performance of methods for detection hGISA

VOL. 23, 2010

VANCOMYCIN RESISTANCE IN *S. AUREUS* 119

TABLE 5. Laboratory detection of hVISA and accuracy of methods compared to those of modified population analysis/area under the curve^a

Method	Sensitivity	Specificity	Reference(s)
Vancomycin broth MIC ^b	11%	100%	372
BHIA + vancomycin at 6 µg per ml, 10 µl of a 0.5-McFarland-standard suspension (BHIA6V) ^c	48 h, 4.5–12%	48 h, 68–100%	370, 389, 393
MHA + teicoplanin at 5 µg per ml, 10 µl of a 2-McFarland-standard suspension (MHA5T) ^d	48 h, 65–79%	48 h, 35–95%	82, 252, 370, 389, 393
MHA + teicoplanin at 5 µg per ml, 10 µl of a 2-McFarland-standard suspension ^e	48 h, 98%	48 h, 53%	82
MHA + vancomycin at 5 µg per ml, 10 µl of a 0.5-McFarland-standard suspension	48 h, 1–20%	48 h, 59–99%	370, 372
Simplified PAP ^f	48 h, 71%	48 h, 88%	372
Macromethod Etest (MET)	48 h, 69–98.5%	48 h, 89–94%	174, 289, 370, 372, 389
Etest GRD	24 h, 70–77%	24 h, 98–100%	174, 393
	48 h, 93–94%	48 h, 82–95%	

^a In all studies, vancomycin

^b Evaluation of vancomycin

^c BHIA6V is the screening plate recommended by the CDC and the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute for the detection of VRSA and VISA strains with vancomycin MICs of ≥ 8 µg per ml (<http://www.cdc.gov>) (53), which is spot inoculated with 10 µl from a 0.5-McFarland-standard suspension and read at 24 and 48 h. The culture is considered positive if there is growth of 2 or more colonies.

^d MHA5T is the screening plate recommended by the Comité de l'Antibiogramme de la Société Française de Microbiologie (<http://www.sfm.asso.fr>), which is spot inoculated with 10 µl from a 2-McFarland-standard suspension and read at 24 and 48 h. The culture is considered positive if there is growth of 1 or more colonies.

^e This analysis included some isolates with a hetero-teicoplanin-resistant but vancomycin-susceptible phenotype by population analysis.

^f Simplified PAP consists of inoculating BHIA with 4 µg per ml of vancomycin with 10 µl from a 0.5-McFarland-standard suspension and reading at 24 and 48 h for any growth.

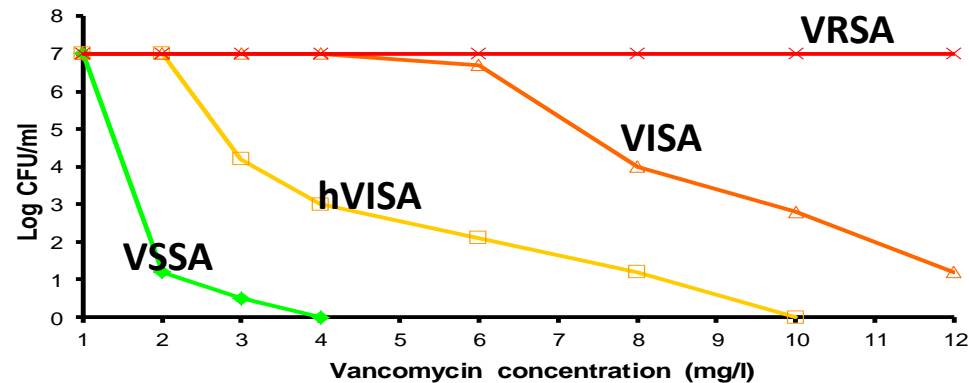
As low prevalence, low positive predictive value

for calculating sensitivity and specificity.

ected by determinations of broth MIC.

Confirmation test

- **Population analysis profile-area under curve (PAP-AUC)**
 - Isolate screening positive for reduced susceptibility
 - Not identified as GRSA or GISA by MIC determination
- **Method**
 - Population analysis for vancomycin
 - Determine ratio of AUC of test organism vs Mu3 (ATCC 700698)



Linezolid resistance

- Mechanisms of resistance
 - Mutations in domain V of 23S rRNA (G2576T) or other genes encoding ribosomal proteins
 - **Transferable mechanisms on plasmids**
 - **Methylation of nucleotide A2503 encoded by *cfr* gene** located on plasmids resistance to PhLOPS_A
 - ABC transporter encoded by *optrA* gene only in *S. sciuri* resistance to PhO
- Described in *S. aureus* and CoNS isolates from animals and humans including Belgium
- Resistance: rare (<1%) but outbreaks occurred

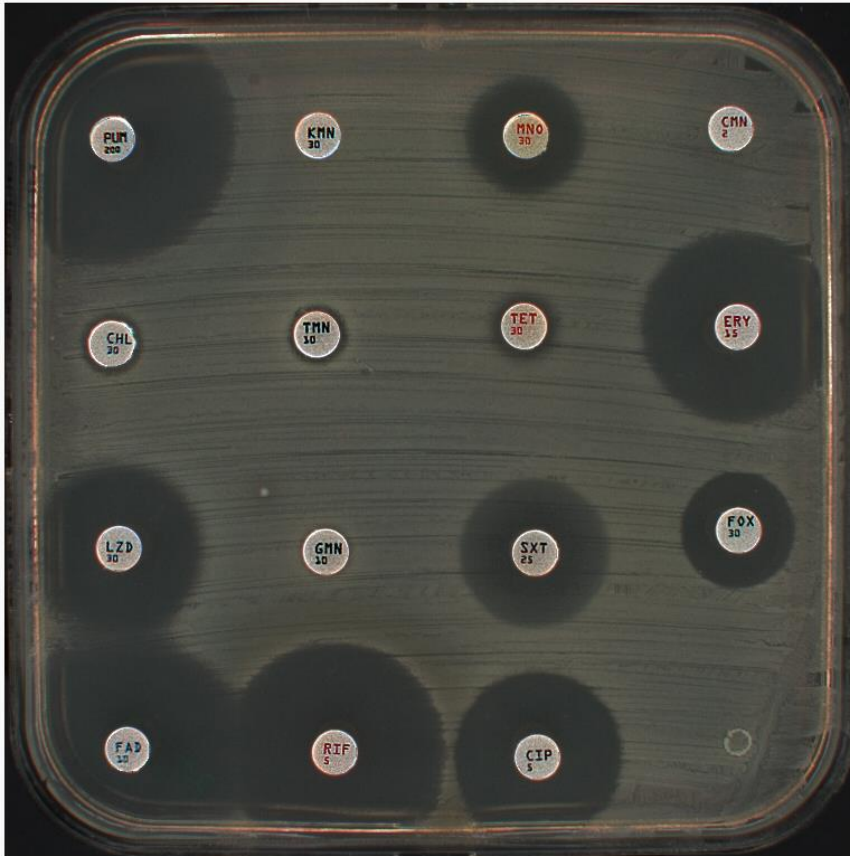
Vanderhaeghen W, et al. JAC 2012
Diaz L et al. AAC 2012
Morales G et al. CID 2012
Sánchez García M et al. JAMA 2010

**Clinical Outbreak of Linezolid-Resistant
Staphylococcus aureus
in an Intensive Care Unit**

Miguel Sánchez García, MD, PhD

Context Linezolid resistance is extremely uncommon in *Staphylococcus aureus*.

cfr-Positive MRSA ST398



- LA-MRSA ST398
- Resistance to chloramphenicol and clindamycin
- Linezolid susceptible ?
- Not detected by disk diffusion using CLSI guidelines
- MIC to linezolid = 12 mg/L

Emergence of cfr-positive *S. aureus* in Belgium

- Humans
 - 1464 *S. aureus* isolates from 2013 to 2015 sent by 167 laboratories
 - 30 resistant to chloramphenicol, clindamycin and/or linezolid
 - One cfr-positive MRSA belonging to CC398 collected from patient with SSI
 - Linezolid MIC = 12 mg/l
- Animals
 - Occasionally found in *S. aureus* and non *S. aureus*
 - Pigs, veals

Characterization of methicillin-resistant non-*Staphylococcus aureus* staphylococci carriage isolates from different bovine populations

Wannes Vanderhaeghen^{1,2*}, Stien Vandendriessche¹⁻³, Florence Crombé^{1,2}, Stéphanie Nemeghaire¹, Marc Dispas¹, Olivier Denis³, Katleen Hermans², Freddy Haesebrouck² and Patrick Butaye^{1,2}

Results: The MRNAS (n=101) carriage rate was estimated as 30.29% (95% CI 6.14%–74.28%) in veal calves, 13.1% (95% CI 1.28%–63.72%) in dairy cows and 24.8% (95% CI 11.97%–44.42%) in beef cows. Carriage rates were not significantly different between the three populations ($P > 0.05$). *mecA*_{LGA251} was not detected. Most (n=80) MRNAS were identified as *Staphylococcus sciuri*, *Staphylococcus lentus* or *Staphylococcus fleurettii*. Resistance to aminoglycosides, macrolide, lincosamide, streptogramin, antimicrobials, tetracycline, and ciprofloxacin was frequently detected. Two linezolid-resistant MRNAS from veal calves carried the multidrug-resistance gene *cfr*. SCCmec cassettes of type III predominated (n=46); another 40 SCCmec cassettes harbored a class A *mec* complex without identifiable *ccr* complex, type IVa, type V and several other non-typeable cassettes were detected in low frequencies, especially in methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

Conclusions: The SCCmec types predominating in bovine MRNAS differ from those mostly detected in livestock-associated methicillin-resistant *S. aureus* strains. Yet, the detection of *cfr* and the high level of other antimicrobial resistances suggest a potentially important role of bovine MRNAS as a reservoir for resistance determinants other than SCCmec.

Vanderhaeghen W et al. JAC 2013

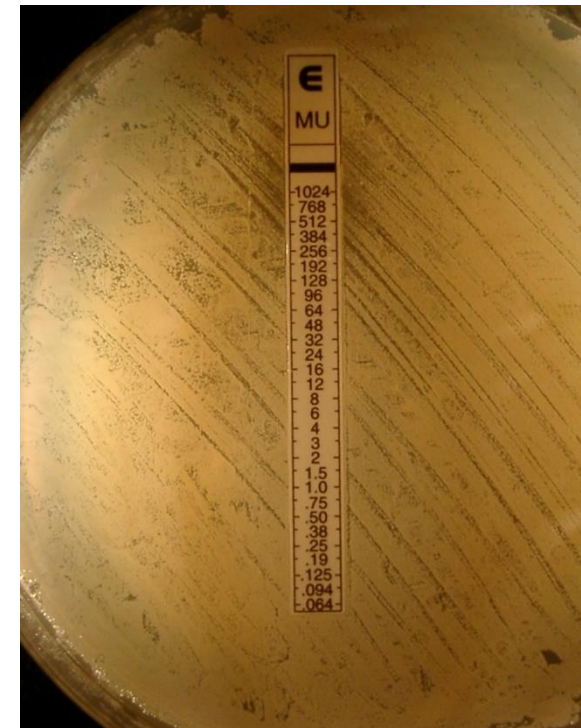
Peeters LEJ et al. Vet Microbiol 2015

Angeles Argudin M et al Res Vet Science 2015

Mupirocin resistance



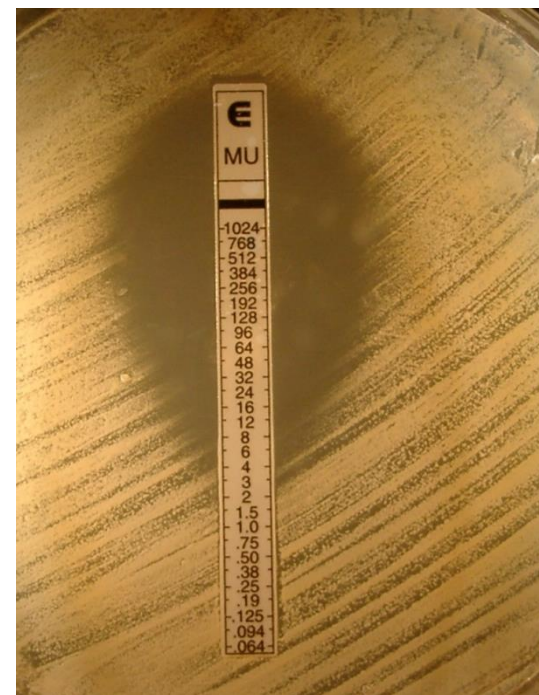
MRSA + *mupA*



High-level of mupirocin resistance conferred by *mupA* > 256 mg/l

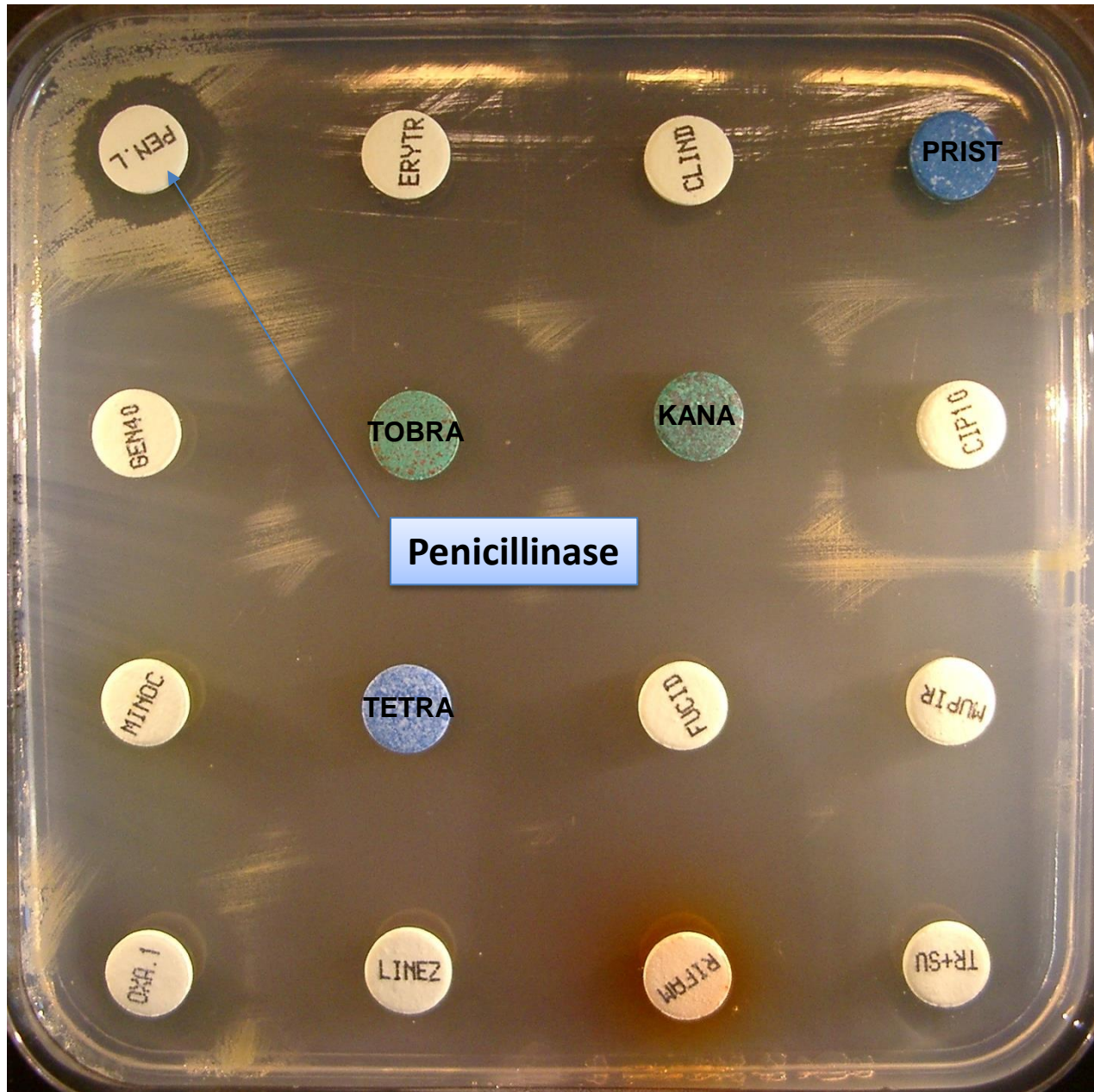


MRSA + *mupA* négatif



Low-level resistance to mupirocin (2-256 mg/l)

Few examples





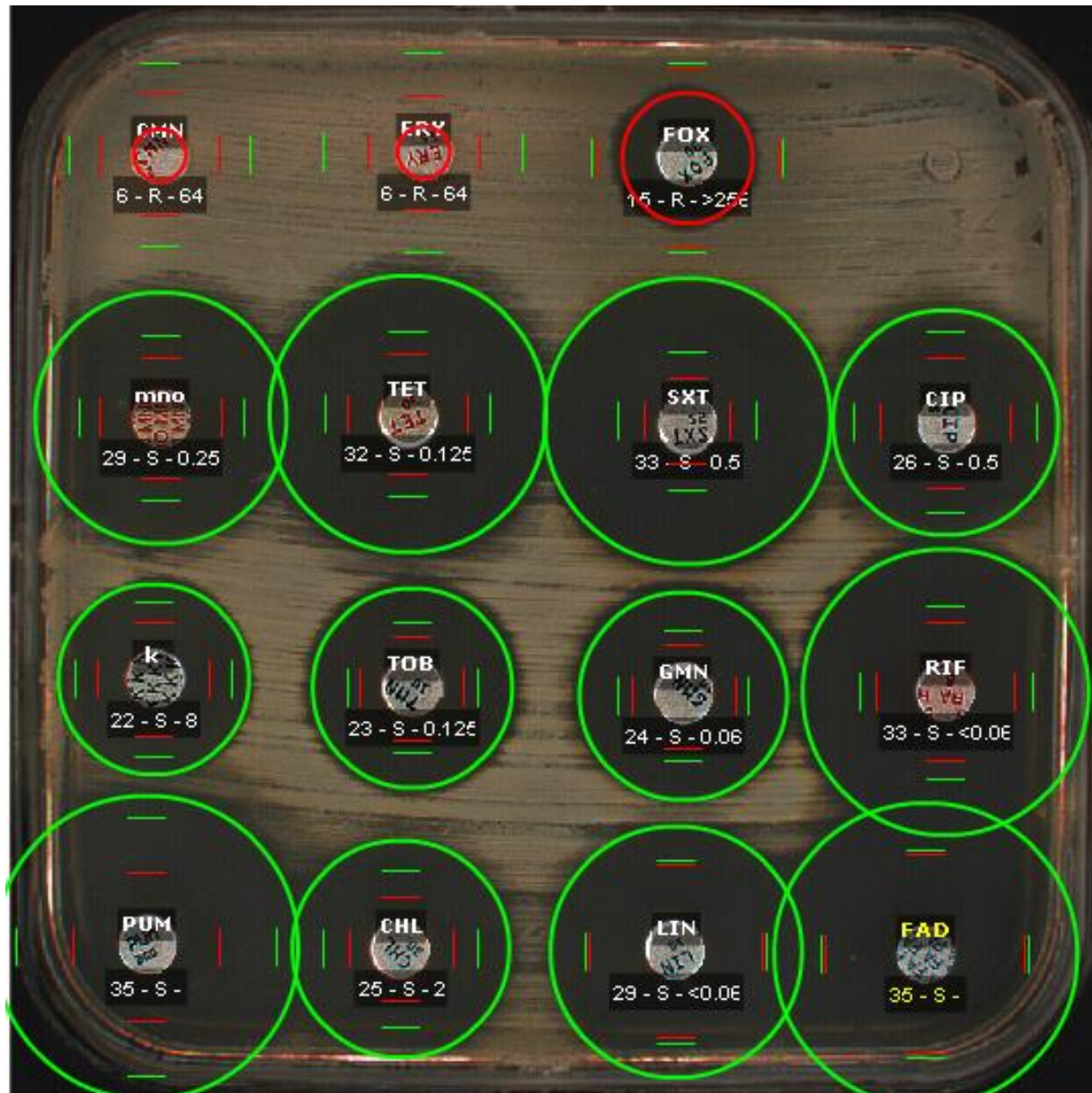
MRSA

MRSA

Phenotype GTK
aac(6')-aph(2'')

⇒ resistance to amikacin



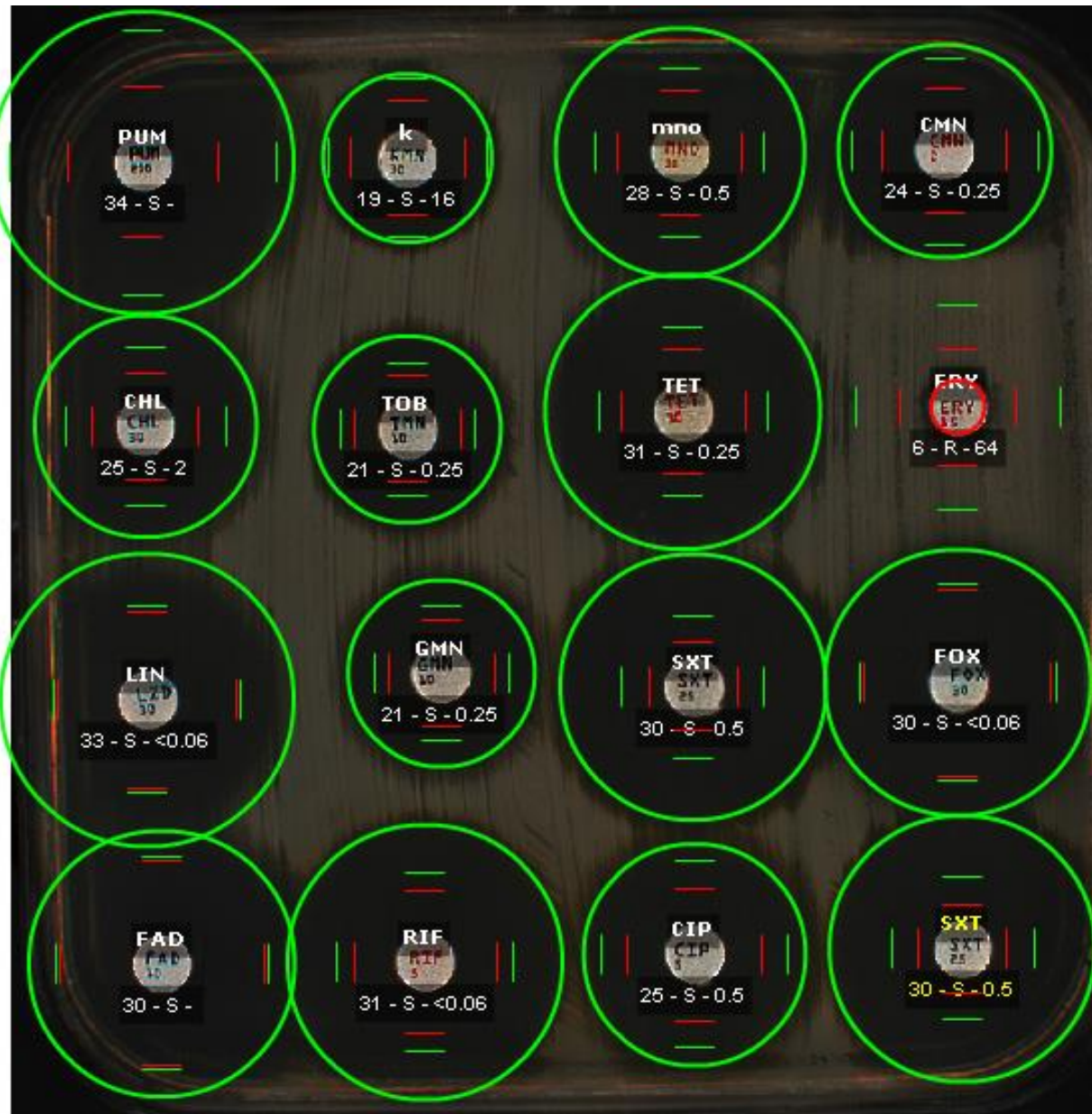


MRSA

constitutive MLS_b
+ *ermA*

MSSA

inducible MLS_b
ermC





MRSA
M phenotype

Acknowledgements

Hôpital Erasme ULB Bruxelles

- Sandrine Roisin
- Magali Dodemont
- Claire Nonhoff
- Ariane Deplano
- Maria Argudin
- Ricardo De Mendonca

Thank you for your attention