



Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Mikrobiologie
Soci t  Suisse de Microbiologie
Societ  Svizzera di Microbiologia
Swiss Society for Microbiology

News and recommendations from the Swiss antibiogram committee (SAC)

The 21st session of the SAC took place on Friday, January 26 in Bern.

News

Composition of the SAC and functions

The list of the SAC members will be accessible upon the launch of the SAC website.

The SAC nominated Dr. Stefano Mancini coordinator and EUCAST delegate.

Two SAC meetings are held annually in Bern. The dates will be available on the upcoming website.

Creation of a SAC website

A website of the SAC will be developed and linked to the Clinical microbiology section of the SSM (<https://swissmicrobiology.ch/en/sections/clinical-microbiology>). The aim is to enhance transparency and to make relevant information accessible to everyone. The website will feature a contact email address for inquiries, clarifications, and suggestions. Until the website's launch, you can contact us at smancini@imm.uzh.ch.

Recommendations

Disc diffusion testing of teicoplanin and vancomycin for staphylococci

'In laboratories conducting AST using disc diffusion for assessing vancomycin and teicoplanin susceptibility in staphylococci, refer to the EUCAST guidelines '8.4 Recommended methods for detection of vancomycin non-susceptible *S. aureus*.' Upon suspicion/for exclusion of VISA, proceed according to the EUCAST guidelines. If not feasible, consider sending the strain to a laboratory performing Vancomycin/Teicoplanin MIC testing or to the NARA. However, please note that NARA does not perform population analysis profiling for the detection of heterogeneous vancomycin-intermediate *S. aureus*. Alternatively suggest another compound for therapy'.

Disc diffusion testing of penicillin for coagulase-negative staphylococci

'The SAC discourages testing and/or reporting benzylpenicillin susceptibility for coagulase-negative staphylococci, except for *S. lugdunensis*, in line with the EUCAST guidelines'.

Implementation of the new definition of the clinical category "I"

'Some laboratories report the category 'I - Susceptible, increased exposure' with letters/acronyms different from the EUCAST guidelines. The SAC recommends using the letter 'I', as suggested by EUCAST, whenever feasible, and emphasizes the importance of promptly communicating any variations in reporting clinical categorizations to the clinicians'.