

Tigecycline Evaluation Surveillance Trial (T.E.S.T.) - Global In Vitro Antibacterial Activity against 14,706 Gram-positive and Gram-negative Pathogens

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REVISED ABSTRACT

Background: Tigecycline, a member of a new class of antimicrobials (glycylcyclines), has been shown to have potent expanded broad spectrum activity against most commonly encountered species responsible for community and hospital acquired infections. The T.E.S.T. program determined the in vitro activity of tigecycline compared to amikacin, ampicillin, imipenem, ceftazidime, ceftazidime, ceftazidime, levofloxacin, minocycline, and piperacillin-tazobactam against Gram-negative strains in addition to linezolid, penicillin, and vancomycin for the Gram-positive species. Isolates were collected from hospitals in North America, Europe and Asia throughout 2004. **Methods:** A total of 14,706 clinical isolates were identified to the species level at each participating site and confirmed by the central laboratory. Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MICs) were determined by the local laboratory using supplied broth microdilution panels from Dade Behring MicroScan and interpreted according to CLSI guidelines. **Results:** Tigecycline's activity was similar to imipenem against most *Enterobacteriaceae*. Tigecycline inhibited ESBL producers with a MIC equal to or less than 2 mcg/mL. Although similar to other classes of broad spectrum antimicrobial agents against non-fermenters, tigecycline was especially active against *Acinetobacter* spp. demonstrating the lowest MIC₉₀ of 1 mcg/mL. Tigecycline successfully inhibited *S. aureus* with a MIC₉₀ of 0.25 mcg/mL regardless of methicillin susceptibility phenotype. Similar results were noticed against *Enterococci* with a tigecycline MIC₉₀ of 0.12 mcg/mL against all strains of *Enterococci* without regard to vancomycin susceptibility. **Conclusion:** Tigecycline's in vitro activity was comparable to or greater than most commonly prescribed antimicrobials against a broad spectrum of aerobic clinical pathogens from a diverse geographical population. The presented data suggest that tigecycline may be an effective therapeutic option against many aerobic Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, including problematic strains with ESBL, VRE and MRSA resistance phenotypes.

INTRODUCTION

Tigecycline is a novel antimicrobial with expanded broad-spectrum activity from a new class of compounds, the glycylcyclines. Tigecycline inhibits protein synthesis by binding to the 30S ribosomal subunit. Although it is perceived to be bacteriostatic, its anti-bacterial activity is significant and has shown some bactericidal activity against key targeted pathogens [1,2]. Tigecycline was developed to provide activity against tetracycline and multi-drug-resistant Gram-positive pathogens and has demonstrated significant activity against aerobic and anaerobic Gram-positive and Gram-negative microorganisms [2-4].

Tigecycline resistance is very infrequent and is also difficult to select for in the laboratory [5, 6] with a selection frequency observed at less than 10⁻⁹ [3, 5, 7]. With the exception of *P. aeruginosa*, tetracycline-resistant bacteria with either tetracycline efflux pumps or ribosomal protective features are sensitive to tigecycline [2-4, 7-11]. Tigecycline has shown to be highly effective against multi-resistant *Acinetobacter* spp., particularly *A. baumannii*, which are commonly associated with serious nosocomial infections. Similar activity has been observed against *Enterobacteriaceae*, even extended-spectrum β-lactamase and AmpC producing strains [10]. Tigecycline has demonstrated MIC₉₀ values of ≤0.5 mcg/mL against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) and other Gram-positive organisms [2, 4-6]. Tigecycline has shown potent activity in animal models infected with selected strains of multi-drug resistant *Enterococcus faecium* and *Enterococcus faecalis* [4, 5] with diverse genotypes van-A-, B- and -C [6].

This study was designed to better define the in vitro activity of tigecycline in a large diverse population of clinical isolates collected from hospitals worldwide.

MATERIALS & METHODS

- All isolates were derived from blood, respiratory tract, urine (no more than 25% of all isolates), skin, wound, fluids and few other defined sources. Only one isolate per patient was accepted.
- Clinical isolates were collected and tested between January 2004 – December 2004 from 80 study centers in 19 countries.
- Custom broth microdilution panels were supplied by MicroScan (Dade Behring MicroScan, Sacramento, CA, USA) with the following antimicrobial agents and concentrations (expressed in mcg/ml): amoxicillin/clavulanic acid (0.12-32); piperacillin/tazobactam (0.06-128); levofloxacin (0.008-8); ceftazidime (0.06-64); ceftazidime (0.5-32); ampicillin (0.5-32); amikacin (0.5-64); minocycline (0.5-16); ceftazidime (8-32); tigecycline (0.008-16); and imipenem (0.06-16).
- MIC interpretive criteria followed published guidelines established by the NCCLS where applicable [12]. Tigecycline tentative breakpoints (in units of mcg/mL) are defined as susceptible ≤ 2; intermediate = 4; and resistant ≥ 8.
- ESBL activity was confirmed by testing the following antibiotic disks: cefotaxime (30 µg), cefotaxime/clavulanic acid (30/10µg), and ceftazidime (30µg), ceftazidime/clavulanic acid (30/10µg). Antibiotic disks

were manufactured by Oxoid Inc. Ogdensburg, New York. Mueller-Hinton agar used in testing was manufactured by Remel Inc. Lenexa, Kansas.

- An organism is interpreted as producing an ESBL if there is an increase of ≥ 5mm in the inhibition zone of the combination disc when compared to that of the cephalosporin alone: cefotaxime/clavulanic acid – cefotaxime ≥ 5 mm or ceftazidime/clavulanic acid – ceftazidime ≥ 5 mm.
- Isolates were identified to the genus and species level by the local laboratory. Each site tested the isolates using broth microdilution panels.
- Quality control of broth microdilution panels followed manufacture's and NCCLS guidelines using the following ATCC strains: *Enterococcus faecalis* ATCC 29212; *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922; *Haemophilus influenzae* ATCC 49247; *Haemophilus influenzae* ATCC 49766; *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 29213; *Streptococcus pneumoniae* ATCC 49619; and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC 27853.
- The collection and transportation of organisms and the confirmation of identification, as well as, construction and management of a centralized database were conducted and coordinated by Laboratories International for Microbiology Studies (LIMS), a subsidiary of International Health Management Associates, Inc. (IHMA, Schaumburg, IL).

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RESULTS

Table 1. List of Countries and Number of Investigative Sites that Contributed to T.E.S.T. Program

Country	Investigative Sites
Australia	1
Austria	1
Canada	1
China	1
France	2
Germany	2
Hungary	1
Italy	2
Latvia	1
Philippines	1
Poland	1
Singapore	1
Spain	1
Switzerland	1
The Netherlands	1
United Kingdom	2
United States	63
Total	80

Table 2. In Vitro Activity of Tigecycline and Comparative Agents against 6,279 Selected Strains of *Enterobacteriaceae*

Organism Name ^a	Drug ^b	MIC (mcg/mL)				
		%SUS	%INT	%RES	MIC ₅₀ MIC ₉₀	
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> (n=6,279)	Tigecycline	96.8	2.6	0.6	0.5	>32
	Ampicillin	16.5	6.2	77.3	>32	>32
	Amox-Clav	48.8	7.3	43.9	16	>32
	Ceftazidime	86.6	2.7	10.7	>32	>32
	Levofloxacin	87.4	2	10.6	0.06	8
	Ceftazidime	88.1	4.6	7.2	0.12	16
	Minocycline	85.8	7.3	6.9	2	8
	Pip-Tazo	90.9	3.9	5.2	2	16
	Ceftazidime	95.4	1.2	3.3	>0.5	2
	Imipenem	98.7	0.4	0.9	0.5	1
Amikacin	98.8	0.6	0.6	2	4	
<i>E. coli</i> (n=1,883)	Tigecycline	99.9	0.1	0	0.12	0.25
	Amikacin	99.3	0.3	0.4	2	4
	Amox-Clav	75.5	14.6	9.9	8	16
	Ampicillin	44.7	1	54.3	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	97.1	0.8	2.1	>0.5	>0.5
	Ceftazidime	94.4	1.7	3.9	>8	>8
	Ceftazidime	93.9	1.8	4.4	>0.06	0.5
	Imipenem	99.7	0	0.3	0.25	0.5
	Levofloxacin	77.2	2.2	20.6	0.03	>8
	Minocycline	83.6	9.6	6.8	1	8
Pip-Tazo	96.3	1.4	2.3	1	4	
<i>K. pneumoniae</i> (n=1,492)	Tigecycline	94.2	5	0.8	0.5	2
	Amikacin	97.9	1.2	0.9	2	4
	Amox-Clav	81.6	7.9	10.5	2	>32
	Ampicillin	3.6	15	81.5	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	92.7	1.5	5.8	>0.5	4
	Ceftazidime	86.7	1.6	11.7	>8	32
	Ceftazidime	87.9	3.9	8.2	>0.5	32
	Imipenem	97.3	1.2	1.5	0.5	0.5
	Levofloxacin	88.9	1.4	9.7	0.06	4
	Minocycline	83	6.6	10.3	2	16
Pip-Tazo	91.2	1.7	7.1	2	16	
<i>K. oxytoca</i> (n=346)	Tigecycline	98.6	1.4	0	0.25	1
	Amikacin	99.1	0.3	0.6	2	4
	Amox-Clav	85.3	4.9	9.8	2	16
	Ampicillin	4.9	10.1	85	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	97.1	0.9	2	>0.5	1
	Ceftazidime	93.6	0.9	5.5	>8	>8
	Ceftazidime	92.8	4.9	2.3	>0.06	4
	Imipenem	99.4	0	0.6	0.5	0.5
	Levofloxacin	93.6	3.2	3.2	0.03	1
	Minocycline	93.1	4.9	2	1	4
Pip-Tazo	90.5	0.6	9	1	16	
ESBL producers (n=1,883)	Tigecycline	93.4	5.7	0.9	0.5	2
	Amikacin	90.4	4.4	5.3	4	16
	Amox-Clav	28.9	40.4	30.7	16	>32
	Ampicillin	0.9	0.9	98.2	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	52.6	9.6	37.7	2	>32
	Amox-Clav	6.4	3.5	90.1	>32	>32
	Ampicillin	4.1	3.9	91.9	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	95.5	1.2	3.3	>0.5	1
	Ceftazidime	79.5	5.6	14.9	>8	>32
	Ceftazidime	99.3	6	4.8	0.12	16
Imipenem	98.8	0	1.2	1	2	
Levofloxacin	92.8	2.5	4.8	0.06	1	
Minocycline	90.3	0.1	4.8	2	4	
Pip-Tazo	88.4	8.1	3.5	2	>32	
<i>E. aerogenes</i> (n=484)	Tigecycline	96.7	2.9	0.4	0.5	1
	Amikacin	94.9	1.6	0.4	2	4
	Amox-Clav	6.4	3.5	90.1	>32	>32
	Ampicillin	4.1	3.9	91.9	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	95.5	1.2	3.3	>0.5	1
	Ceftazidime	79.5	5.6	14.9	>8	>32
	Ceftazidime	99.3	6	4.8	0.12	16
	Imipenem	98.8	0	1.2	1	2
	Levofloxacin	92.8	2.5	4.8	0.06	1
	Minocycline	90.3	0.1	4.8	2	4
Pip-Tazo	88.4	8.1	3.5	2	>32	
<i>E. agglomerans</i> (n=25)	Tigecycline	96	4	0	0.25	2
	Amikacin	100	0	0	2	8
	Amox-Clav	48	48	16	>32	>32
	Ampicillin	20	12	68	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	100	0	0	>0.5	4
	Ceftazidime	72	4	24	>8	>32
	Ceftazidime	76	8	16	0.25	>64
	Imipenem	96	4	0	0.5	1
	Levofloxacin	88	0	12	0.06	8
	Minocycline	76	16	8	4	8
Pip-Tazo	92	4	4	2	8	
<i>E. cloacae</i> (n=1,260)	Tigecycline	94.4	3.9	0.7	0.5	2
	Amikacin	99	0.3	0.7	2	2
	Amox-Clav	4	1.3	94.7	>32	>32
	Ampicillin	5.1	3.9	91	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	94.9	1.6	3.5	>0.5	4
	Ceftazidime	73.3	5.3	21.4	>8	>32
	Ceftazidime	76.2	9.6	14.1	0.25	64
	Imipenem	99	0.2	0.9	0.5	1
	Levofloxacin	92.5	2.2	5.3	0.06	2
	Minocycline	86	6.9	7.1	8	8
Pip-Tazo	81.1	10.2	8.7	2	64	
<i>S. marcescens</i> (n=723)	Tigecycline	97.5	2.2	0.3	1	2
	Amikacin	99.3	0.1	0.5	2	4
	Amox-Clav	2.4	1.9	95.7	>32	>32
	Ampicillin	2.9	4.6	92.5	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	97.1	1	1.9	>0.5	1
	Ceftazidime	91.8	2.2	5.9	>8	>8
	Ceftazidime	92.8	3.2	4	0.25	4
	Imipenem	98.9	0.3	0.8	1	2
	Levofloxacin	95.7	1.4	2.9	0.12	1
	Minocycline	90.7	6.2	3	4	4
Pip-Tazo	95.4	2.8	1.8	1	8	

Table 3. In Vitro Activity of Tigecycline and Comparative Agents Selected against 2,586 *Acinetobacter* spp and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

Organism Name ^a	Drug ^b	MIC (mcg/mL)				
		%SUS	%INT	%RES	MIC ₅₀ MIC ₉₀	
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp (n=1,067)	Tigecycline	88.9	11.1	0	0.25	1
	Amikacin	61.5	6.3	12.2	4	64
	Amox-Clav	na	na	na	32	>32
	Ampicillin	na	na	na	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	51.4	14.9	33.7	8	>32
	Ceftazidime	51	5.6	43.5	>8	>32
	Ceftazidime	52.8	22.1	45.1	32	>64
	Imipenem	86.1	4.8	9.1	0.5	8
	Levofloxacin	53	7.5	39.5	2	>8
	Minocycline	69.2	6.9	2.5	>0.5	>4
Pip-Tazo	72.9	0	27.1	8	>128	
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> (n=44)	Tigecycline	100	0	0	0.12	0.25
	Amikacin	69.2	0	4.8	2	4
	Amox-Clav	na	na	na	16	32
	Ampicillin	na	na	na	16	32
	Ceftazidime	55.2	4.8	0	4	8
	Ceftazidime	90.5	4.7	4.8	>8	>8
	Ceftazidime	57.1	38.1	4.8	8	16
	Imipenem	100	0	0	0.5	0.5
	Levofloxacin	100	0	0	0.12	0.5
	Minocycline	100	0	0	>0.12	>0.5
Pip-Tazo	100	0	0	1	8	
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> (n=44)	Tigecycline	98.7	1.3	0	0.25	1
	Amikacin	90	6.9	13.1	1	64
	Amox-Clav	na	na	na	32	>32
	Ampicillin	na	na	na	>32	>32
	Ceftazidime	47.9	16.2	36.5	16	