

## REVISED ABSTRACT

**Background:** One of the goals of surveillance studies is to identify changing patterns of bacterial resistance to help guide current therapy. The Tigecycline Evaluation Surveillance Trial (TEST) is an ongoing global study that can serve to help recognize current trends in resistance on many levels. This report evaluates differences in susceptibility of strains from different body sites, collected in Asia/Pacific 2004-2006. **Methods:** 1,509 strains isolated from 10 specimen types were collected and identified from 2004-2006 at 9 hospitals in 7 countries in Asia/Pacific. MICs for each strain were determined per CLSI guidelines at each facility using broth microdilution. MIC<sub>50</sub> values were analyzed to identify any significant differences in antibiograms from different sources. **Results:** Tigecycline (TIG) MIC<sub>50</sub> values for almost all organism/specimen pairings were +/− 2 dilutions of each other, with no single source routinely giving a higher MIC<sub>50</sub> than others. The same was seen for TIG MIC<sub>90</sub> values, which were almost always within 1-2 dilutions of the MIC<sub>50</sub>. Comparator drugs generally showed more variability in activity vs. isolates from various body sites, and their MIC<sub>90</sub>/MIC<sub>50</sub> ratios were often much higher than those of TIG. **Conclusion:** Bacteria isolated from more than 10 different body sites had generally similar antibiograms, with no single source showing significantly different sensitivity patterns. TIG demonstrated a broad spectrum of activity and consistently low MIC<sub>90</sub>/MIC<sub>50</sub> ratios, including strains resistant to other drugs (MRSA, ESBL-producers, imipenem-resistant Acinetobacter, etc.), clearly reinforcing its position as a viable alternative for therapy of difficult-to-treat infections.

## 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 considered a bacteriostatic agent, it has shown some bactericidal activity against key pathogens [1,2]. Tigecycline was developed to provide activity against tetracycline- and multi-drug-resistant 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 induce in the laboratory [5, 6] with a selection frequency of less than 10<sup>-9</sup> observed [3, 5, 7]. Tetracycline-resistant bacteria with either tetracycline efflux pumps or ribosomal protective features are usually sensitive to tigecycline [2-4, 7-11], except for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Tigecycline has been shown to be highly effective against multi-resistant *Acinetobacter* spp., particularly *A. baumannii* that are commonly associated with serious nosocomial infections. Similar activity has been observed against *Enterobacteriaceae*, including most extended-spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL) producing strains [10]. Tigecycline has demonstrated MIC<sub>50</sub> 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].

With such a broad spectrum of activity, tigecycline has the potential to be useful in a variety of infections. This report describes the in vitro activity of tigecycline against a large, diverse population of clinical isolates collected from various specimen types in hospitals in Western Europe from 2004 through 2006.

## 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.
- 6,936 clinical isolates were collected and tested between January 2004 and June 2006 from 9 study centers in 7 countries in Asia.
- Custom broth microdilution panels were supplied by MicroScan (Dade Behring Inc., 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); ceftiraxone (0.06-64); cefepime (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 CLSI where applicable [12]. Tigecycline breakpoints (in units of mcg/ml), as approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), are defined as follows: *Enterobacteriaceae*: susceptible ≤2, intermediate =4, and resistant ≥8; *Staphylococcus aureus* (including MRSA): susceptible ≤0.5, no intermediate or resistant breakpoints; *Enterococcus faecalis* (vancomycin-susceptible): susceptible ≤0.25, no intermediate or resistant breakpoints; non-pneumococcal streptococci: susceptible ≤0.25, no intermediate or resistant breakpoints.
- Isolates were identified to genus and species by the local laboratory. Each site tested the isolates using broth microdilution.
- Quality control of broth microdilution panels followed manufacturer's and CLSI guidelines using the following ATCC strains: *E. faecalis* ATCC 29212; *Escherichia coli* ATCC 25922; *Haemophilus influenzae* ATCC 49247; *Haemophilus influenzae* ATCC 49766; *S. aureus* ATCC 29213; *Streptococcus pneumoniae* ATCC 49619; and *P. 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. Tigecycline MIC<sub>50</sub> and MIC<sub>90</sub> (mcg/ml) for gram-negative isolates with n>=10 from various body sites<sup>a</sup>. (GI = Gastrointestinal; GU = Genitourinary; HEENT = Head, Ears, Eyes, Nose, Throat; Resp = Respiratory; SSS = Skin/Soft Tissue)

Organism	(n)	Blood	GI	GU	HEENT	Resp	SSS
<i>E. coli</i>	(n)	(81.00)	(13.00)	(61.00)		(15.00)	(22.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.12	0.12	0.12		0.12	0.12
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	0.25	0.25	0.50		0.50	0.25
<i>Klebsiella spp.</i>	(n)	(56.00)		(61.00)		(62.00)	(11.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.50		0.50		0.50	0.25
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	2.00		1.00		1.00	0.50
ESBL-producers ( <i>E. coli</i> , <i>Klebsiella spp.</i> )	(n)	(27.00)		(23.00)		(18.00)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.50		0.50		0.50	
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	2.00		0.50		1.00	
<i>Enterobacter spp.</i>	(n)	(28.00)		(39.00)		(53.00)	(38.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.50		0.50		0.50	0.50
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	2.00		2.00		1.00	1.00
<i>Serratia spp.</i>	(n)	(13.00)		(13.00)		(31.00)	(10.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	1.00		1.00		1.00	1.00
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	2.00		1.00		1.00	2.00
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	(n)	(12.00)		(14.00)	(14.00)	(65.00)	(44.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	8.00		8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	>16		16.00	16.00	16.00	>16
<i>Acinetobacter spp.</i>	(n)	(35.00)		(10.00)		(40.00)	(19.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.12		0.12		0.12	0.25
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	0.50		0.50		1.00	1.00
<i>H. influenzae</i>	(n)				(12.00)	(89.00)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>				0.12	0.12	
	MIC <sub>90</sub>				0.25	0.25	
<i>H. influenzae</i> (B-lac positive)	(n)					(19.00)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>					0.12	
	MIC <sub>90</sub>					0.25	

<sup>a</sup>MIC<sub>50/90</sub> not calculated if n<10.

Table 2. Tigecycline MIC<sub>50</sub> and MIC<sub>90</sub> (mcg/ml) for gram-positive isolates with n>=10 from various body sites<sup>a</sup>.

Organism	(n)	Blood	GI	GU	HEENT	Resp	SSS
<i>S. aureus</i>	(n)	(14.00)			(11.00)	(47.00)	(112.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.25			0.12	0.12	0.12
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	0.50			0.12	0.50	0.25
<i>S. aureus</i> MRSA only	(n)					(36.00)	(36.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>					0.25	0.12
	MIC <sub>90</sub>					0.50	0.25
<i>Enterococcus spp.</i> <sup>b</sup>	(n)	(28.00)	(39.00)	(53.00)			(38.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.12	0.06	0.12			0.12
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	0.12	0.12	0.12			0.25
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>	(n)	(30.00)				(62.00)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	0.03				0.12	
	MIC <sub>90</sub>	0.50				0.50	
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> (pen-intermed.)	(n)					(17.00)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>					0.06	
	MIC <sub>90</sub>					0.50	
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> (pen-resistant)	(n)					(10.00)	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>					0.02	
	MIC <sub>90</sub>					1.00	
<i>S. agalactiae</i>	(n)			(42.00)			(10.00)
	MIC <sub>50</sub>			0.03			0.06
	MIC <sub>90</sub>			0.06			0.06

<sup>a</sup>MIC<sub>50/90</sub> not calculated if n<10.

<sup>b</sup>Includes 3 VR *E. faecium*, for which MIC<sub>50/90</sub> were 0.03-0.06.

Tables 3a - 3h. Drugs with MIC<sub>50</sub> or MIC<sub>90</sub> varying by >2 log<sub>2</sub> dilutions among specimen sources (n>=10). Ak=amikacin, Am=ampicillin, AUG=amoxicillin/clavulanic acid, Cax=ceftiraxone, Caz=ceftazidime, Cpe=cefepime, Imp=imipenem, Lvx=levofloxacin, Min=minocycline, P=penicillin, P/T=piperacillin/tazobactam, Va=vancomycin.

Table 3a. *E. coli* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Cpe	Cax	Lvx	P/T
Blood (81)	≤0.5/4	≤0.06/32	0.03/>8	1/4
GI (13)	2/>32	4/>64	0.5/>8	1/16
GU (61)	≤0.5/32	≤0.06/>64	4/>8	1/16
Resp (15)	≤0.5/32	2/>64	8/>8	2/8
SSS (22)	≤0.5/8	≤0.06/64	0.12/>8	1/2

Table 3b. *Klebsiella spp.* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Cpe	Lvx	Min	P/T
Blood (56)	≤0.5/>32	0.06/8	2/>16	2/64
GU (61)	≤0.5/8	0.03/2	2/4	2/128
Resp (62)	≤0.5/4	0.06/8	2/8	2/4
SSS (11)	≤0.5/16	0.06/0.5	2/4	2/8

Table 3c. *Enterobacter spp.* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Cax	Lvx
Blood (28)	0.25/>64	0.06/8
GU (39)	0.25/>64	0.06/8
Resp (53)	2/>64	0.06/4
SSS (38)	2/>64	0.06/1

Table 3d. *Serratia spp.* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Ak	Cpe	Caz	Cax	P/T
Blood (13)	4/>64	≤0.5/>32	≤8/>32	0.5/>64	2/4
GU (13)	2/4	≤0.5/<0.5	≤8/≤8	0.25/2	1/4
Resp (31)	2/4	≤0.5/2	≤8/≤8	0.5/8	2/16
SSS (10)	2/4	≤0.5/≤0.5	≤8/≤8	0.25/0.5	2/2

Table 3e. *Acinetobacter spp.* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Imp	Lvx	P/T
Blood (35)	0.25/>16	0.12/4	1/>128
GU (10)	0.5/2	0.06/8	4/16
Resp (40)	0.25/16	0.25/8	2/>128
SSS (19)	0.5/16	2/>8	2/>128

Table 3f. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Ak	Caz	Imp
Blood (12)	4/4	≤8/≤8	1/1
GU (14)	4/64	≤8/>32	1/8
HEENT (14)	4/32	≤8/≤8	1/8
Resp (65)	4/16	≤8/>32	1/8
SSS (44)	4/64	≤8/>32	1/16

Table 3g. *Streptococcus pneumoniae* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	P	P/T
Blood (30)	≤0.06/0.25	≤0.25/≤0.25
Resp (62)	≤0.06/2	≤0.25/2

Table 3h. *Staphylococcus aureus* MIC<sub>50/90</sub>

Source (n)	Aug	Cax	Imp	Lvx	Min	P/T
Blood (14)	1/>8	4/>64	0.25/>16	0.25/8	≤0.25/8	1/>16
HEENT (11)	1/>8	4/>64	0.25/>16	0.25/>32	≤0.25/4	1/>16
Resp (47)	>8/>8	>64/>64	16/>16	8/>32	16/>16	>16/>16
SSS (112)	1/>8	4/>64	0.25/1	0.25/4	≤0.25/4	1/>16

## CONCLUSIONS

- Tigecycline MIC<sub>50</sub> and MIC<sub>90</sub> values for each species/group were within 2 log<sub>2</sub> dilutions, demonstrating remarkable consistency regardless of specimen source.
- Tigecycline MIC<sub>90</sub> values were within 1-2 log<sub>2</sub> dilutions of the MIC<sub>50</sub> in the vast majority of the cases presented; however, *S. pneumoniae* MIC<sub>90/50</sub> ratios ranged from 4 to 64.

- Although MIC<sub>50</sub> values for comparator drugs were often within 2 doubling dilutions across specimen sources, there were numerous exceptions to this, and MIC<sub>90</sub>s frequently varied by more than 2 log<sub>2</sub> dilutions across specimen sources. This was due less to any particular specimen source than to the relative percentage of resistant isolates recovered from each source.
- Tigecycline's consistent activity against most strains in this study, including those resistant to one or more other antimicrobials, indicates that it could be very useful in treatment of serious infections in Asia, as in other regions of the world.