

Global Activity of Meropenem Against Gram-negative Isolates Collected in 2012-2014

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Revised Abstract

Objectives: Increasing resistance in gram-negative pathogens, especially due to extended-spectrum β -lactamases (ESBLs) and carbapenemases, has been reported worldwide, seriously limiting treatment options in some regions. Meropenem is a broad-spectrum carbapenem antibiotic that is highly refractory to degradation by many β -lactamases. This report uses data from a global surveillance study over the years 2012-2014 to examine susceptibility patterns of gram-negative pathogens to meropenem.

Methods: 48,626 clinically relevant gram-negative isolates from multiple body sources were collected in 2012-2014 from 202 sites in 39 countries. MICs were determined by CLSI broth microdilution and results were interpreted following EUCAST 2015 guidelines. Presence of extended-spectrum β -lactamase (ESBL), and carbapenemase (KPC, OXA-48-like, GES and metallo- β -lactamase) genes were determined using PCR in ceftazidime and carbapenem non-susceptible isolates.

Results: The percent susceptible (%S) of gram-negative isolates to meropenem in different geographic regions is shown in the table. Meropenem exhibited good activity against all *Enterobacteriaceae*, including the ESBL-producing subset. Slight regional differences were seen, which appears to be associated with regional differences in the incidence of carbapenemase enzymes. Meropenem exhibited moderate activity against *P. aeruginosa*, with differences across the different regions. The lower activity could not be fully attributed to the presence of carbapenemases, pointing to additional resistance mechanisms in this species. Meropenem showed reduced activity against *A. baumannii*.

	AP		EU		LA		MEA		NA	
	N	%S	N	%S	N	%S	N	%S	N	%S
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>	7,087	98.8	18,377	97.6	5,317	96.1	3,281	98.1	4,204	98.5
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> , ESBL-containing	1,434	96.3	3,070	92.1	1,350	91.3	803	96.3	281	94.7
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> minus carbapenemase-containing isolates	7,002	99.6	17,812	99.6	5,119	98.1	3,215	99.8	4,139	99.8
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	2,496	99.6	6,182	99.9	1,928	99.5	1,164	99.5	1,433	99.7
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp.	2,233	97.7	5,977	93.4	1,682	89.4	1,114	96.1	1,331	96.3
<i>Citrobacter</i> spp.	442	98.4	1,014	99.5	269	98.9	164	99.4	264	98.9
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp.	838	98.3	2,133	98.6	602	97.5	358	98.3	535	99.1
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	1,392	77.4	3,893	72.9	1,088	64.9	689	74.8	948	77.4
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> minus carbapenemase-containing isolates	1,337	80.6	3,703	76.6	982	71.5	642	80.2	945	77.7
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i>	398	42.2	1,229	34.0	299	20.1	189	23.3	235	42.1

AP, Asia/Pacific; EU, Europe; LA, Latin America; MEA, Middle East/Africa; NA, North America; ESBL, extended-spectrum β -lactamase; MBL, metallo- β -lactamase

Conclusions: Despite being on the market for many years, resistance in *Enterobacteriaceae* and *P. aeruginosa* is still low and meropenem continues to display significant *in vitro* activity against these gram-negative pathogens. Resistance in *Enterobacteriaceae* seems to be primarily mediated by carbapenemase enzymes, while for *P. aeruginosa* other mechanisms are also in play.

Introduction

Increasing resistance in gram-negative pathogens, especially due to extended-spectrum β -lactamases (ESBLs) and carbapenemases, has been reported worldwide, seriously limiting treatment options in some regions. Meropenem is a broad-spectrum carbapenem antibiotic that is highly refractory to degradation by many β -lactamases. This report uses data from a global surveillance study over the years 2012-2014 to examine susceptibility patterns of gram-negative pathogens to meropenem.

Materials & Methods

- 48,626 clinically relevant gram-negative isolates from multiple body sources were collected in 2012-2014 from 202 sites in 39 countries. MICs were determined by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) recommended broth microdilution testing method [1]. MIC interpretive criteria followed EUCAST guidelines [2]. Colistin was tested in 2014 only.
- Isolates were screened for ESBL activity according to CLSI guidelines using ceftazidime and/or aztreonam followed by confirmation by the clavulanic inhibition test [3].
- An isolate of *Enterobacteriaceae* was defined as CRE if it was not susceptible to meropenem using EUCAST interpretive criteria [2].
- The presence of extended-spectrum β -lactamase (ESBL), and carbapenemase (KPC, OXA-48-like, GES and metallo- β -lactamase) genes were determined using PCR followed by amplification of the full-length genes and sequencing in ceftazidime and carbapenem non-susceptible isolates.

Results

Table 1. *In Vitro* Activity of Meropenem and Comparators Against Gram-negative Clinical Isolates and Subgroups

Organism Group	Region	N	Meropenem			Cefepime			Piperacillin-tazobactam			Levofloxacin			Amikacin			Tigecycline			Colistin			
			%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	%S	MIC ₅₀	Range	
All <i>Enterobacteriaceae</i>	Asia/Pacific	7087	98.8	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	75.3	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	81.2	64	≤ 0.25 - > 128	71.3	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	95.3	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	83.4	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	2078	83.5	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Europe	18377	97.6	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	78.5	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	76.8	128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	75.9	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	93.6	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	81.6	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	7453	82.7	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Latin America	5317	96.1	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	67.5	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	73.4	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	64.4	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	89.7	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	82.2	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	2168	82.2	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	MidEast/Africa	3281	98.1	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	70.7	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	75.0	64	≤ 0.25 - > 128	71.5	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	93.5	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	84.0	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	1478	83.5	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	North America	4204	96.5	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	89.9	2	≤ 0.12 - > 16	86.4	16	≤ 0.25 - > 128	80.1	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	97.1	4	≤ 0.25 - > 32	84.0	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	1573	84.6	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> , no carbapenemase	Asia/Pacific	7002	99.7	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	76.2	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	82.1	32	≤ 0.25 - > 128	71.8	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	95.7	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	93.7	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	2057	83.5	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Europe	17887	99.7	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	80.5	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	78.9	64	≤ 0.25 - > 128	77.5	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	95.2	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	92.3	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	7236	82.9	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Latin America	5119	99.1	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	69.9	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	76.2	64	≤ 0.25 - > 128	66.1	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	91.1	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	93.1	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	2062	82.4	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	MidEast/Africa	3215	99.8	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	71.9	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	76.5	32	≤ 0.25 - > 128	72.3	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	94.3	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	94.0	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	1446	83.4	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	North America	4139	99.9	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	91.2	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	87.8	16	≤ 0.25 - > 128	81.2	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	97.9	4	≤ 0.25 - > 32	93.4	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	1550	84.6	> 4	≤ 0.12 - > 4
<i>Enterobacteriaceae</i> , ESBL+	Asia/Pacific	1385	99.1	0.12	0.008 - > 8	4.6	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	58.8	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	31.0	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	86.6	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	86.6	2	0.06 - 8	412	96.6	1	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Europe	2791	98.9	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	4.0	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	37.3	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	28.5	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	80.3	32	≤ 0.25 - > 32	84.0	2	0.03 - > 8	1238	94.2	1	0.25 - > 4
	Latin America	1258	97.1	0.25	0.004 - > 8	3.7	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	40.8	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	24.6	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	77.7	32	≤ 0.25 - > 32	85.0	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	511	93.0	1	0.25 - > 4
	MidEast/Africa	770	99.5	0.12	0.015 - > 8	2.7	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	41.3	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	37.4	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	84.9	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	86.5	2	0.06 - 8	368	94.6	1	0.25 - > 4
	North America	263	100	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	9.9	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	55.5	> 128	0.5 - > 128	18.3	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	83.7	16	0.5 - > 32	86.7	2	0.06 - 8	102	97.1	1	≤ 0.12 - > 4
All <i>K. pneumoniae</i>	Asia/Pacific	1889	97.5	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	70.1	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	72.3	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	76.2	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	94.2	4	≤ 0.25 - > 32	86.2	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	639	98.1	1	0.25 - > 4
	Europe	4830	91.9	0.5	0.004 - > 8	60.2	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	58.3	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	67.0	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	89.3	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	84.5	2	0.03 - > 8	2297	95.7	1	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Latin America	1424	87.7	4	0.008 - > 8	52.2	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	53.7	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	62.3	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	85.8	32	≤ 0.25 - > 32	84.1	2	0.06 - 8	643	91.6	2	0.25 - > 4
	MidEast/Africa	955	95.7	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	51.0	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	54.9	> 128	0.5 - > 128	70.5	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	91.0	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	86.8	2	0.06 - 8	485	98.8	1	0.25 - > 4
	North America	1057	95.4	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	86.2	8	≤ 0.12 - > 16	81.5	64	≤ 0.25 - > 128	80.5	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	93.8	4	≤ 0.25 - > 32	87.8	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	478	98.7	1	0.25 - > 4
<i>K. pneumoniae</i> , no carbapenemase	Asia/Pacific	1844	97.7	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	71.7	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	73.8	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	76.2	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	95.2	4	≤ 0.25 - > 32	86.4	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	625	98.4	1	0.25 - > 4
	Europe	4414	99.3	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	65.6	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	63.8	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	72.3	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	94.5	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	85.9	2	0.03 - > 8	2109	97.8	1	≤ 0.12 - > 4
	Latin America	1261	97.5	0.12	0.008 - > 8	58.3	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	60.5	> 128	≤ 0.25 - > 128	68.8	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	90.6	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	86.0	2	0.06 - 8	556	94.1	1	0.25 - > 4
	MidEast/Africa	913	99.6	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	53.3	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	57.4	> 128	≤ 0.5 - > 128	72.8	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	93.5	8	≤ 0.25 - > 32	87.7	2	0.06 - 8	462	99.1	1	0.25 - > 4
	North America	1003	100	0.06	≤ 0.004 - > 8	90.7	1	≤ 0.12 - > 16	85.8	16	≤ 0.25 - > 128	89.1	4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	97.1	2	≤ 0.25 - > 32	89.1	2	≤ 0.015 - > 8	457	99.3	1	0.25 - > 4
<i>K. pneumoniae</i> , ESBL+	Asia/Pacific	525	99.2	0.12	0.015 - > 8	6.7	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	34.7	> 128	0.5 - > 128	45.5	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	86.1	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	72.4	2	0.06 - 8	188	96.3	1	0.25 - > 4
	Europe	1486	98.2	0.12	≤ 0.004 - > 8	2.0	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	20.3	> 128	0.5 - > 128	33.8	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	86.1	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	77.5	2	0.03 - 8	727	96.6	1	0.25 - > 4
	Latin America	537	94.4	2	0.015 - > 8	5.2	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	24.0	> 128	0.5 - > 128	40.6	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	81.8	32	≤ 0.25 - > 32	76.7	2	0.06 - 8	230	90.4	2	0.25 - > 4
	MidEast/Africa	425	99.3	0.06	0.015 - > 8	3.3	> 16	≤ 0.12 - > 16	28.9	> 128	1 - > 128	53.9	> 4	≤ 0.03 - > 4	88.2	16	≤ 0.25 - > 32	83.5	2	0.06 - 8	215	98.6	1	0.25 - > 4