Dear friends and colleagues,
Welcome to our December 2018 TAE Newsletter!
TAE Steering Committee wish you healthy and successful New Year and happy Christmas!
At beginning, we would like to share a great news with you – TAE has reached >1000 followers on Twitter. A big thanks to those who follow us on social media! We continuously share updates on the latest developments in the field of clinical microbiology and infectious diseases and news about courses, jobs and PhD opportunities via our social media channels. Please find below information that might be of great interest to you.

Best wishes,
TAE Steering committee

New TAE Steering Committee Members: Sarah Dellière and Valentijn Schweitzer

Trainee Association of ESCMID (TAE) welcomes two new members to the Steering Committee: Sarah Dellière (left) from Paris, France, and Valentijn Schweitzer (right) from Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Sarah Dellière (1989) is a resident in Clinical Microbiology in Paris, France. She further specializes in medical mycology, to which she dedicates her research from resistance mechanisms in fungi to improving diagnostic tools. She worked on Aspergillus cell wall for her MSc (2017) in Don Sheppard's Lab at McGill in Montreal, Canada and had planned to shortly start her PhD in the Pasteur Institute, Paris, on Cryptococcus with Françoise Dromer's team.

Valentijn Schweitzer (1987) is a resident in Clinical Microbiology at the University Medical Centre Utrecht, the Netherlands. He graduated as a Medical Doctor in 2014 and as a Clinical Epidemiologist in 2018. Since 2014 he is working as a PhD candidate in the group of Prof. Marc Bonten on the subject of Antimicrobial Stewardship and Community-acquired Pneumonia.
Productive 2-day TAE Steering Committee meeting in Basel

TAE Steering Committee members had a very productive and stimulating Autumn Meeting at the ESCMID Office in Basel in November. Many thanks to Benjamin Schirra and Simone Brüderli from ESCMID Office for organising the meeting in Basel, Prof. Emmanuelle Cambau for attending our meeting, and TAE steering committee members: David Ong, Aleksandra Barac, Caroline Rönnberg, Cansu Cimen, Zaira Raquel Palacios Baena, Muge Cevik, Valentijn Schweitzer, and Sarah Dellière.

Check out upcoming ECCMID 2019!

Join us on TAE Trainees day on Saturday, April 13th!

Every year at ECCMID, TAE organizes roundtable sessions with renowned experts. This session provides an excellent opportunity for trainees to discuss career development and career/research opportunities, and get inspiration from the experts’ own career journey. This will also be a perfect opportunity to build stronger links between senior experts and future professionals. In addition, we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of TAE. The afternoon also includes presentations by a special guest and the ESCMID Young Scientist Awardees.

More info...
**TAE sessions during ECCMID**

TAE will take part in the following sessions/educational workshops during ECCMID:

- Applying pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic principles in critically ill patients
- Update on travel vaccines and prophylaxis
- Outbreak simulation exercise: who does what and why in case of an infectious disease outbreak
- Advances of antifungal therapy

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**TAE publication of the month**

*JAMA | Original Investigation*

**Effect of Piperacillin-Tazobactam vs Meropenem on 30-Day Mortality for Patients With E coli or Klebsiella pneumoniae Bloodstream Infection and Ceftriaxone Resistance**

A Randomized Clinical Trial

Extended-spectrum β-lactamases mediate resistance to third-generation cephalosporins (eg, ceftriaxone) in Escherichia coli and Klebsiella pneumoniae. Significant infections caused by these strains are usually treated with carbapenems, potentially selecting for carbapenem resistance. Piperacillin-tazobactam may be an effective “carbapenem sparing” option to treat extended-spectrum β-lactamase producers. The aim of this trial, published in JAMA in September 2018, was to determine whether definitive therapy with piperacillin-tazobactam is non-inferior to meropenem (a carbapenem) in patients with bloodstream infection caused by ceftriaxone-nonsusceptible *E. coli or K. pneumoniae*. Nonfatal serious adverse events occurred in 5 of 188 patients (2.7%) in the piperacillin-tazobactam group and 3 of 191 (1.6%) in the meropenem group. Among patients with *E. coli* or *K. pneumoniae* bloodstream infection and ceftriaxone resistance, definitive treatment with piperacillin-tazobactam compared with meropenem did not result in non-inferior 30-day mortality. These findings do not support the use of piperacillin-tazobactam in this setting.
1. Is there a benefit associated with ID consultation? In this retrospective cohort, ID consultation was associated with reduced 30-day & 1-year all-cause mortality for S. aureus infections including SAB and drug-resistant Enterobacteriaceae. http://ow.ly/MLoT30mr9IK
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1057549400497684480

2. A Candida auris outbreak in a UK neuro-ICU linked to reusable axillary thermometer probes indicating that this emerging pathogen can persist in the environment and be transmitted in health care settings.

3. Is it safe to IVOST in SAB? In this prospective cohort, an early PO switch to linezolid from day 3-9 in selected low-risk patients with S. aureus bacteraemia was not associated with increased risk of mortality or relapse. Published in CID. http://ow.ly/2SSo30mp9cN
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1056962880313139207

4. Time to blood culture positivity (TTP) may be a proxy for infectious burden in patients with bacteraemia. In this prospective cohort of patients with SAB, TTP of first BC was independently associated with ↑ risk of endocarditis & mortality. http://ow.ly/T60y30mp8Mm
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1056818454374858752

5. Excellent review on susceptibility testing methods for #antifungal resistance, as well as discovery of novel antifungal and antibiofilm agents, which are key priorities in medical #mycology research. http://ow.ly/1Cpi30m5zaS

6. Azole-resistance in Aspergillus terreus: An emerging problem or a rare phenomenon? Posaconazole is the most potent drug against A. terreus, but in some European countries posaconazole-resistance was found to be>10%. http://ow.ly/BLCs30m3rCu
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1047147973761802243

7. <7d vs >7d antibiotic for acute pyelonephritis. This systematic review & meta-analysis included 8 RCTs & found no significant difference between clinical & microbiological failure (end of treatment & f/u) even in bacteraemic patients.
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1026366032749965312
https://academic.oup.com/jac/article/68/10/2183/715190?platform=hootsuite

8. A comprehensive history is an essential element of #penicillin allergy evaluation. Specific questions that are particularly important include: This review paper provides an excellent approach for the evaluation & management of pen allergy. http://ow.ly/N4DJ30kvvvR
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1007525641649090561

9. The findings of this retrospective cohort study suggests that acute bacteraemic cholangitis with appropriate biliary drainage can be treated with a shorter duration (median 6 days) of antimicrobials than conventionally recommended. http://ow.ly/AUo830lifmu
https://twitter.com/TAEscmid/status/1026728413745373184

10. In this national cohort study of 68,265 surgical patients preoperative screening and treatment of asymptomatic bacteriuria did not reduce SSI or UTI. https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamasurgery/fullarticle/2717962
Did you miss previous TAE Newsletters? Don’t worry, you can find them in our archive:

TAE March 2018 Newsletter
TAE June 2018 Newsletter
TAE October 2018 Newsletter

TAE contact persons

We are searching for contact persons for the following countries (infectious diseases/ID trainee or clinical microbiology/CM trainee):

Belgium (ID trainee)
Switzerland (CM trainee)
Armenia (ID and CM trainee)
Latvia (CM trainee)
Moldova (ID and CM trainee)
Albania (CM trainee)
Cyprus (ID and CM trainee)
Azerbaijan (ID trainee)
Czech Republic (CM trainee)
Estonia (ID trainee)
Slovakia (ID trainee)
Ukraine (CM trainee)
Greece (ID trainee)
Macedonia (ID trainee)

If you are interested in being a TAE national contact person, or if you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us:
tae@escmid.org