

Newsletter 27 (November 2011)

Calibration of Tetracyclines for Enterococci

With the help of Dr. Jawad Saab we have calibrated tetracyclines for Enterococci. This was in response to requests from a number of clinicians who wished to treat patients with enterococcal urinary tract infections with a tetracycline. One hundred and five isolates (49 *E. faecalis* and 56 *E. faecium*) were used in the calibrations. With a 10µg Tetracycline disc the cut off for susceptible strains was ≥ 6 mm annular radius, with a susceptible breakpoint MIC of 4 mg/L of tetracycline hydrochloride. From detailed experiments (to be reported) it was shown that there was concordance between susceptibility to tetracycline hydrochloride and doxycycline but with a consistently lower MIC observed with doxycycline. Tetracycline 10µg, therefore, will be used as the surrogate disc for testing other tetracyclines.