

Antimicrobial Activity of Doripenem Tested Against Bloodstream Infections Isolates from North America (2003-2006)

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Abstract

Background: Patient comorbidities and widespread use of indwelling devices have increased risks of nosocomial bloodstream infections (BSI), requiring prompt management with targeted antimicrobials for favorable outcomes. We summarize the results of a North America (NA) surveillance program comparing doripenem (DOR), a broad-spectrum parenteral carbapenem (CARB) in advanced clinical development, with numerous other agents against contemporary BSI pathogens.

Methods: Nonduplicate consecutive BSI isolates (16,874) were collected from ≥ 24 medical centers each year in NA. Identifications were confirmed by the central monitor, and all isolates were susceptibility (S) tested using CLSI methods against DOR, meropenem (MEM), imipenem (IMP), and other comparators.

Results: DOR inhibited 98.7% of the top 11 ranked BSI pathogens, excluding oxacillin (OXA)-resistant (*R*) *S. aureus* (43.9%), coagulase-negative staphylococci (79.1%), and enterococci, at tested S breakpoints.

Ranking BSI Organisms (no. tested)	MIC ₅₀ % Inhibited ^a		
	DOR	MEM	IMP
<i>S. aureus</i> (OXA-S; 2576)	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	$0.12/100.0$	$\leq 0.12/100.0$
<i>E. coli</i> (EC; 2965)	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	$0.25/100.0$
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp. (KSP; 1557)	$\leq 0.06/97.7$	$\leq 0.06/97.2$	$0.5/97.2$
Coagulase (-) staphylococci (OXA-S; 208)	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	$\leq 0.12/100.0$	$\leq 0.12/100.0$
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> (SPA; 834)	4/95.8	4/91.6	8/88.1
Enterobacter spp. (ESP; 807)	0/1299.9	0/1299.9	1/99.6
Beta-hemolytic streptococci (BHS; 651)	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	-
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> (SPN; 399)	0/2599.7	0/2590.4	$\leq 0.12/90.9$
<i>Serratia</i> (331)	0/2598.8	$\leq 0.06/98.8$	1/99.4
<i>Protinus mirabilis</i> (PM; 270)	$0.25/100.0$	$\leq 0.06/100.0$	2/100.0
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp. (ASP; 263)	8/88.2	8/86.3	4/90.9

a. CLSI breakpoints used for MEM and IMP for DOR; ≤ 1 ng/mL for SPN and BHS, and ≤ 4 ng/mL for all other organisms.

All CARBs were highly active against the ranked pathogens, with DOR and MEM being equally active against SPN, BHS, EC, KSP, ESP, and ASP. DOR being ≥ 2 -fold more active (MIC₅₀) more active than MEM against SA and CNS; and 4- to 8-fold more active than IMP against many Gram-negative bacilli. *P. SA* with DOR/MEM/IMP MIC values ≤ 4 ng/mL were 95.8/91.6/88.1. Confirmed ESBL-producing organisms (EC (2.3%), KSP (8.0%), ESP (2.7%), and PM (1.5%)) all were inhibited by ≤ 2 ng/mL of DOR. All aztreonam (AZ) ESP (19.7%), AmpC hyperproducers were DOR-S. CARB non-S KSP (36 isolates) and ESP (1 isolate) were KPC carbapenemase-producing strains, originating from the eastern USA.

Conclusions: DOR, an investigational CARB, combines the spectrum and potency of IMP against Gram-positive and of MEM against Gram-negative organisms, including enhanced coverage against *P. SA*. As multidrug-R spreads, especially among Gram-negative BSI pathogens, accelerated drug development becomes a critical need.

Introduction

Given the significant morbidity and mortality associated with bacteremia, prompt assessment as to probable source followed by appropriate medical and/or surgical interventions are required. The increased complexity of patients requiring hospitalization, seriousness of their underlying condition(s), and the widespread use of indwelling devices have all created increased risks for bacteremia. Inadequate empirical antimicrobial therapy can be associated with adverse outcomes, including increased mortality, and antimicrobial resistance is an added complication known to result in treatment failures. Knowledge of the most likely causative organisms and their expected resistance patterns can increase the probability of selecting an effective antimicrobial for empiric therapy.

^aDoripenem is an investigational parenteral carbapenem under development by Johnson & Johnson that has the favorable characteristics of the carbapenem class, including stability to extended-spectrum β -lactamases (ESBLs) and AmpC cephalosporins, resistance to inactivation by renal dihydropeptidases, and low potential for central nervous system toxicity. Earlier in vitro studies of this carbapenem have shown the compound to have a spectrum and potency versus Gram-positive cocci most similar to imipenem, and a Gram-negative activity most like meropenem (eg, two- to fourfold greater than imipenem).

^bResistance to licensed carbapenems has increasingly been reported among *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Acinetobacter* spp. strains in certain geographic regions (Europe, South America, Asia-Pacific) and may be produced by the expression of acquired metallo- β -lactamases, oxacillinsams, or by a combination of AmpC hyper-producer, outer membrane porin deletions, and/or upregulated efflux mechanisms. Carbapenem resistance among *Enterobacteriaceae*, while rare, has been documented both sporadically and in clonal outbreaks and may be due to a variety of plasmid-mediated Amber class A series carbapenemases, including KPC, NMC, IMI, and SME.

^cWe examined the acceptability profiles of doripenem and comparator agents tested against contemporary bloodstream infection isolates originating in North America as part of a longitudinal international surveillance protocol. A total of 16,874 isolates were tested by reference methods of the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI; formerly NCCLS).

Materials and Methods

Bacterial Strain Collection: A total of 16,874 nonduplicate, consecutive clinical isolates were submitted from 25 medical centers located in North America as part of an international surveillance program during the years 2003 to 2006. Isolates originated from patients with documented bloodstream infections. The distribution of leading genre and species is presented in Table 1.

Susceptibility Test Methods: All strains were tested by the CLSI broth microdilution method using validated commercially prepared panels (TREK Diagnostics, Cleveland, OH) in cation-adjusted Mueller-Hinton broth (with 5% lysed horse blood added for testing of streptococci) against a variety of antimicrobial agents representing the most common classes and examples of drug use in the empiric or directed treatment of the indicated pathogen. Interpretation of MIC results was in accordance with published CLSI criteria (2007). Enterobacteriaceae (*Enterobacter* spp., *Klebsiella* spp.) with elevated MIC values (≥ 2 ng/mL) for ceftazidime and/or ceftiofur and/or aztreonam were considered as ESBL-producing phenotypes; confirmatory testing was performed using ceftazidime and ceftiofur alone and in combination with clavulanic acid. Quality control (QC) strains utilized included *E. coli* ATCC 25922 and 33218, *P. aeruginosa* ATCC 27853, *Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC 29213, and *Streptococcus pneumoniae* ATCC 49619; all QC results were within CLSI-specified ranges.

Results

^aRanking pathogens (top 12; 93.8% of total) recovered from bloodstream infections in North America for 2003 to 2006 included: *S. aureus* (27.2%), *E. coli* (17.6%), *Enterococcus* spp. (12.9%), *Klebsiella* spp. (9.2%), coagulase-negative staphylococci (5.9%), *P. aeruginosa* (4.9%), *Enterobacter* spp. (4.8%), β -hemolytic streptococci (3.8%), *S. pneumoniae* (2.4%), *Serratia* spp. (2.0%), *Protinus mirabilis* (1.6%), and *Acinetobacter* spp. (1.5%) (Table 1).

^bAt MIC values of 1 for *S. pneumoniae* and β -hemolytic streptococci and 4 ng/mL for all others (equivalent to peer agents), doripenem inhibited 99.0% of the top 11 bloodstream pathogens within its spectrum of activity (excludes enterococci and methicillin [oxacillin]-resistant staphylococci).

^cAll carbapenems were highly active against leading pathogens producing bloodstream infections (exceptions noted below) with doripenem being at least twofold (MIC₅₀) more active than meropenem against staphylococci; equivalent to meropenem against *S. pneumoniae*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *Acinetobacter* spp.; and four- to eightfold more active than imipenem against *Enterobacter* and *Serratia* spp. (Tables 2-4).

^dPrevalence of *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* spp. displaying an ESBL-phenotype was 3.3% to 4.2% and 12.1% to 13.2%, respectively. Following confirmatory testing, ESBL rates were 2.3% and 8.0% for *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* spp., no doripenem MIC exceeded 0.25 and 2 ng/mL, respectively, for these groups.

^eDoripenem and meropenem were equally active against confirmed ESBL-producing *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* spp. (MIC₅₀ and MIC₉₀ values, ≤ 0.06 and 0.12 mg/mL) and both agents were twofold more active (MIC₅₀) than imipenem.

^fNon-ESBL isolates of *Klebsiella* spp. with elevated carbapenem MIC values (≥ 8 mg/mL; 44 isolates, 2.8%) were mostly found to express KPC- β -lactamases and originated primarily from medical centers along the mid-Atlantic seaboard (New York City area) of the United States.

^gAmong carbapenems, doripenem provided the best coverage against *P. aeruginosa* (S inhibited at ≤ 4 ng/mL; doripenem, 95.8%; meropenem, 91.6%; imipenem, 88.1%).

^hOnly azitracin (97.8% susceptible) and polymyxin B (99.9%) provided greater coverage of *P. aeruginosa* (Table 4).

ⁱPolymyxin B (99.6% susceptible) and the carbapenems (86.3 to 90.9%) were the most active agents studied against *Acinetobacter* spp., whereas greater resistance was noted for ceftazidime (40.7%), levofloxacin (36.5%), cefepime (28.3%) and piperacillin/tazobactam (27.0%) (Table 4).

Organism (no. tested)	Doripenem			Meropenem			Imipenem		
	MIC ₅₀ (ng/mL) ^a	% \leq indicated MIC ^b	MIC ₉₀ (ng/mL)	% Susceptible ^c	MIC ₅₀ (ng/mL)	% Susceptible ^c	MIC ₅₀ (ng/mL)	% Susceptible ^c	
<i>S. aureus</i> (oxacillin susceptible; 2576)	≤ 0.06	100.0	0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	
Coagulase-negative staphylococci (oxacillin susceptible; 208)	≤ 0.06	100.0	0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> (399)	0.25	99.7	0.25	90.4	≤ 0.12	90.9	-	-	
β -hemolytic streptococci (651)	≤ 0.06	100.0	≤ 0.06	100.0	-	-	-	-	
<i>E. coli</i> (2965)	≤ 0.06	100.0	≤ 0.06	100.0	0.25	100.0	0.25	100.0	
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp. (1557)	≤ 0.06	97.7	≤ 0.06	90.2	≤ 0.05	97.2	-	-	
Enterobacter spp. (807)	0.12	99.9	0.12	99.5	0.12	99.1	-	-	
<i>Serratia</i> (331)	0.25	98.8	≤ 0.06	98.8	1	99.4	-	-	
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> (834)	4	95.8	4	91.6	8	88.1	-	-	
<i>P. mirabilis</i> (270)	0.25	100.0	≤ 0.06	100.0	2	100.0	-	-	
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp. (263)	8	88.2	8	86.3	4	89.8	-	-	

a. ≤ 1 ng/mL for *S. pneumoniae* and β -hemolytic streptococci and ≤ 4 ng/mL for all others (equivalent to peer agents); b. ≥ 2 ng/mL for *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* spp.; c. ≥ 1 ng/mL for all other organisms.

Organism (no. tested)	Doripenem			Meropenem			Imipenem		
	MIC ₅₀ (ng/mL)	% \leq indicated MIC ^b	MIC ₉₀ (ng/mL)	% Susceptible ^c	MIC ₅₀ (ng/mL)	% Susceptible ^c	MIC ₅₀ (ng/mL)	% Susceptible ^c	
<i>S. aureus</i> (oxacillin susceptible; 2576)	≤ 0.06	100.0	0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	
Coagulase-negative staphylococci (oxacillin susceptible; 208)	≤ 0.06	100.0	0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	≤ 0.12	100.0	
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> (399)	0.25	99.7	0.25	90.4	≤ 0.12	90.9	-	-	
β -hemolytic streptococci (651)	≤ 0.06	100.0	≤ 0.06	100.0	-	-	-	-	
<i>E. coli</i> (2965)	≤ 0.06	100.0	≤ 0.06	100.0	0.25	100.0	0.25	100.0	
<i>Klebsiella</i> spp. (1557)	≤ 0.06	97.7	≤ 0.06	90.2	≤ 0.05	97.2	-	-	
Enterobacter spp. (807)	0.12	99.9	0.12	99.5	0.12	99.1	-	-	
<i>Serratia</i> (331)	0.25	98.8	≤ 0.06	98.8	1	99.4	-	-	
<i>P. aeruginosa</i> (834)	4	95.8	4	91.6	8	88.1	-	-	
<i>P. mirabilis</i> (270)	0.25	100.0	≤ 0.06	100.0	2	100.0	-	-	
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp. (263)	8	88.2	8	86.3	4	89.8	-	-	

a. ≤ 1 ng/mL for *S. pneumoniae* and β -hemolytic streptococci and ≤ 4 ng/mL for all others (equivalent to peer agents); b. ≥ 2 ng/mL for *E. coli* and *Klebsiella* spp.; c. ≥ 1 ng/mL for all other organisms.

Table 2. In Vitro Activity of Doripenem in Comparison to Selected Antimicrobial Agents Tested Against Bloodstream Isolates of Staphylococci (Oxacillin Susceptible) and Streptococci Originating From North America

Organism (no. tested)	MIC (ng/mL)			% by Category ^a	
	50%	90%	Range	Susceptible	Resistant
<i>S. aureus</i> (oxacillin-susceptible; 2576)	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-2$	-	-
Doripenem	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-2$	-	-
Meropenem	0.12	0.12	$\leq 0.06-1$	100.0	0.0
Imipenem	≤ 0.12	≤ 0.12	$\leq 0.12-4$	100.0	0.0
Ceftazidime	4	4	$\leq 0.25-2$	99.5	0.0
Cefepime	2	4	$\leq 1-16$	92.0	0.3
Cefditafem	2	4	0.25-10.0	100.0	0.0
Piperacillin-tazobactam	1	2	$\leq 0.5-4$	99.8	0.2
Levofloxacin	0.25	0.5	$\leq 0.25-4$	91.6	7.7
Lincosolid	1	2	0.12-10.0	100.0	-
Vancocycin	1	1	0.25-2	>99.9	0.0
Coagulase-negative staphylococci (oxacillin susceptible; 208)	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-4$	-	-
Doripenem	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-4$	-	-
Meropenem	0.12	0.12	$\leq 0.06-4$	100.0	0.0
Imipenem	≤ 0.12	≤ 0.12	$\leq 0.12-4$	100.0	0.0
Ceftazidime	4	8	$\leq 1-16$	93.8	1.4
Cefepime	0.5	2	$\leq 0.12-8$	100.0	0.0
Cefditafem	≤ 0.5	1	$\leq 0.5-4$	98.4	9.8
Piperacillin-tazobactam	≤ 0.5	1	$\leq 0.5-8$	100.0	0.0
Levofloxacin	0.25	0.4	$\leq 0.03-4$	77.4	20.7
Lincosolid	1	1	$\leq 0.06-2$	100.0	-
Vancocycin	1	2	0.25-4	100.0	0.0

Organism (no. tested)	MIC (ng/mL)			% by Category ^a	
	50%	90%	Range	Susceptible	Resistant
<i>S. pneumoniae</i> (399)	≤ 0.06	0.12	$\leq 0.06-8$	-	-
Doripenem	≤ 0.06	0.12	$\leq 0.06-8$	-	-
Meropenem	≤ 0.06	0.12	$\leq 0.06-8$	99.9	<0.1
Imipenem	≤ 0.5	1	$\leq 0.5-8$	97.4	0.1
Enterobacter spp.	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-16$	98.7	3.1
Piperacillin-tazobactam	2	4	$\leq 0.5-256$	84.5	6.3
Ceftazidime	≤ 0.25	2	$\leq 0.25-32$	82.3	10.3
Cefditafem	≤ 1	16	$\leq 1-16$	88.2	16.5
Cefepime	≤ 0.12	2	$\leq 0.12-16$	97.6	1.6
Levofloxacin	≤ 0.5	0.5	$\leq 0.5-4$	93.4	4.6
Gentamicin	≤ 2	≤ 2	$\leq 2-8$	91.9	6.9
<i>Enterobacter</i> spp. (807)	≤ 0.06	0.12	$\leq 0.06-8$	-	-
Doripenem	≤ 0.06	0.12	$\leq 0.06-8$	-	-
Meropenem	≤ 0.06	0.12	$\leq 0.06-8$	99.8	1.2
Imipenem	≤ 0.5	1	$\leq 0.5-8$	98.4	1.2
Enterobacter spp.	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-16$	98.8	1.7
Piperacillin-tazobactam	2	4	$\leq 0.5-256$	97.0	0.6
Ceftazidime	≤ 0.25	2	$\leq 0.25-32$	95.8	0.6
Cefditafem	≤ 1	16	$\leq 1-16$	96.1	2.7
Cefepime	≤ 0.12	2	$\leq 0.12-16$	99.1	0.9
Levofloxacin	≤ 0.5	1	$\leq 0.5-4$	97.9	0.9
Gentamicin	≤ 2	≤ 2	$\leq 2-8$	95.2	2.7

a. Breakpoint criteria are those of CLSI M31-S17 (2007); - no breakpoints established.

Table 3. In Vitro Activity of Doripenem in Comparison to Selected Antimicrobial Agents Tested Against Bloodstream Isolates of Non-Fermentative Gram-Negative Bacilli Originating From North America

Organism (no. tested)	MIC (ng/mL)			% by Category ^a	
	50%	90%	Range	Susceptible	Resistant
<i>E. coli</i> (2965)	≤ 0.06	≤ 0.06	$\leq 0.06-4$	-	-