

# Antimicrobial Activity of Ceftazidime-Avibactam Tested against Contemporary (2012) Gram-negative Organisms Collected from United States (USA) Medical Centers

HS SADER, M CASTANHEIRA, RK FLAMM, RN JONES

JMI Laboratories, North Liberty, Iowa, USA

Helio S. Sader, MD, PhD  
JMI Laboratories  
North Liberty, IA, USA  
www.jmilabs.com  
ph. 319.665.3370  
fax 319.665.3371  
helio-sader@jmlabs.com

## Abstract

**Background:** The activity of the novel  $\beta$ -lactamase (BL) inhibitor combination ceftazidime-avibactam (CAZ-AVI) and comparator agents were evaluated against a contemporary collection of clinically significant gram-negative bacilli (GNB). AVI is a non- $\beta$ -lactam BL inhibitor that inhibits Ambler class A, C, and some D enzymes (eg, ESBL, KPC, and AmpC).

**Methods:** 10,928 GNB, including 8,640 Enterobacteriaceae (ENT), 1,967 *P. aeruginosa* (PSA) and 321 *Acinetobacter* spp. (ASP) were collected from 73 USA hospitals and tested for susceptibility (S) by reference broth microdilution methods in a central monitoring laboratory (JMI Laboratories). ENT strains with an ESBL-phenotype were tested by PCR for genes encoding ESBLs, KPC and selected plasmidic AmpC enzymes.

**Results:** 99.8% of ENT strains were inhibited at a CAZ-AVI MIC of  $\leq 4$   $\mu$ g/mL (CLSI S breakpoint for CAZ). CAZ-AVI was very active against ESBL-phenotype *E. coli* (11.9% ESBL-phenotype) and *K. pneumoniae* (KPN; 16.0% ESBL-phenotype), meropenem (MER)-non-S (MIC,  $\leq 2$   $\mu$ g/mL) KPN and CAZ-non-S *E. cloacae* (ECL; see Table 1). Among ESBL-phenotype KPN, 61.1% of strains were MER-S and 99.3% were inhibited at CAZ-AVI MIC of  $\leq 4$   $\mu$ g/mL. Among PSA, 96.9% of strains were inhibited at a CAZ-AVI MIC of  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL, and S rates for MER, CAZ and piperacillin/tazobactam were 82.0, 83.2 and 78.3%, respectively. The most active compounds tested against MER-non-S PSA were CAZ-AVI (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 4/16  $\mu$ g/mL; 87.3% inhibited at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL), amikacin (AMK; MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 4/16  $\mu$ g/mL; 92.7% S) and colistin (COL; MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 1/2  $\mu$ g/mL; 97.7% S). ASP (CAZ-AVI MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 16/32  $\mu$ g/mL) showed high rates of resistance (R) to most tested agents and only COL (96.6% S), AMK (67.9% S) and gentamicin (50.2%) were active against >50% of strains at their S breakpoints.

**Conclusions:** CAZ-AVI demonstrated potent activity against a large collection of contemporary GNB isolated from patients in USA hospitals (2012), including organisms R to most currently available agents, such as KPC-producing ENT and MER-non-S PSA.

## Methods

- An ESBL-phenotype was noted among 701 (12.2%) isolates and included 328 *E. coli* (11.9% of the overall samples for this species), 296 *K. pneumoniae* (16.0%), 44 *K. oxytoca* (10.0%) and 33 *Proteus mirabilis* (4.8%).
- CTX-M Group 1 (CTX-M-15-like) was the most common  $\beta$ -lactamase detected among ESBL-phenotype strains (303/701; 43.2%), followed by SHV ESBL (176/701; 25.1%), KPC (118/701; 16.8%), CTX-M-14-like (72/701; 10.3%) and CMY-2-like (64/701; 9.1%; see Poster #C2-1634)
- Only two *K. pneumoniae* strains had ceftazidime-avibactam MIC >4  $\mu$ g/mL, both at >32  $\mu$ g/mL. These strains were isolated in a unique medical center in Denver, Colorado and further evaluation showed that they produce NDM-1 and were clonally related [CDC, 2013]; (Table 1)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam exhibited potent activity against *P. mirabilis*, with a MIC<sub>50</sub> of 0.06  $\mu$ g/mL and the highest MIC at 0.5  $\mu$ g/mL (Tables 1 and 2)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam was highly active against *Enterobacter cloacae* (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.12/0.5  $\mu$ g/mL), including ceftazidime-non-susceptible strains (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.5/1  $\mu$ g/mL). The highest ceftazidime-avibactam MIC value among *E. cloacae* was 4  $\mu$ g/mL (Tables 1 and 2)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.12/0.25-0.5  $\mu$ g/mL) was much more active than ceftazidime (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.25/32->32  $\mu$ g/mL) when tested against *E. aerogenes* and *E. cloacae* (Table 2)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam exhibited potent activity against *Morganella morganii* (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.06/0.12  $\mu$ g/mL), *Citrobacter koseri* (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.06/0.12  $\mu$ g/mL), *C. freundii* (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.12/0.5  $\mu$ g/mL), *Serratia marcescens* (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.12/0.5  $\mu$ g/mL), *Proteus vulgaris* (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.06/0.06  $\mu$ g/mL) and *Providencia* spp. (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.12/0.5  $\mu$ g/mL; Tables 1 and 2)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam inhibited 87.3% of meropenem-non-susceptible (meropenem MIC,  $\geq 4$   $\mu$ g/mL; 354 isolates tested) and 82.1% of ceftazidime-non-susceptible *P. aeruginosa* isolates (ceftazidime MIC,  $\geq 16$   $\mu$ g/mL; 330 isolates tested) at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL (Table 1)
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- Ceftazidime-avibactam exhibited modest activity against *Acinetobacter* spp. with MIC<sub>50/90</sub> of 16/32  $\mu$ g/mL and 31.2% of strains inhibited at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL (Tables 1 and 2).

## Results

- 99.8% of Enterobacteriaceae strains were inhibited at a ceftazidime-avibactam MIC of 4  $\mu$ g/mL or less, which is the susceptibility breakpoint established by the CLSI for ceftazidime tested alone (Table 1)
- The highest ceftazidime-avibactam MIC among *E. coli* (2,767 strains) was only 2  $\mu$ g/mL (one isolate). The ESBL screen (+) phenotype strains were very susceptible to ceftazidime-avibactam (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 0.12/0.25  $\mu$ g/mL; 2/32  $\mu$ g/mL; 83.2% susceptible at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL). All non-ESBL strains were inhibited at a ceftazidime-avibactam MIC of  $\leq 0.5$   $\mu$ g/mL (Tables 1 and 2)
- Against *P. aeruginosa*, the activity of ceftazidime-avibactam (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 2/4  $\mu$ g/mL; 96.9% inhibited at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL) was greater than that of ceftazidime alone (MIC<sub>50/90</sub>, 2/32  $\mu$ g/mL; 83.2% susceptible at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL; Table 2)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam inhibited 87.3% of meropenem-non-susceptible (meropenem MIC,  $\geq 4$   $\mu$ g/mL; 354 isolates tested) and 82.1% of ceftazidime-non-susceptible *P. aeruginosa* isolates (ceftazidime MIC,  $\geq 16$   $\mu$ g/mL; 330 isolates tested) at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL (Table 1)
- Ceftazidime-avibactam exhibited modest activity against *Acinetobacter* spp. with MIC<sub>50/90</sub> of 16/32  $\mu$ g/mL and 31.2% of strains inhibited at  $\leq 8$   $\mu$ g/mL (Tables 1 and 2).

## Introduction

Bacterial isolates resistant to clinically available  $\beta$ -lactams represent an important challenge to successful treatment of serious infections.  $\beta$ -lactamase-mediated resistance, in particular, represents a significant clinical threat because of the mobile nature of the genes encoding these enzymes. Two strategies have been used to restore the utility of  $\beta$ -lactam compounds: (i) the design/discovery of novel  $\beta$ -lactam molecules that are refractory to enzymatic inactivation, and (ii) the inhibition of  $\beta$ -lactamases, thereby allowing the  $\beta$ -lactam to retain target concentrations at the sites of inhibition of penicillin-binding proteins (PBPs).

Avibactam (formerly NXL-104) is a non- $\beta$ -lactam  $\beta$ -lactamase inhibitor that very effectively inactivates class A, C and some D  $\beta$ -lactamases, with low IC<sub>50</sub> (concentration resulting in 50% inhibition) values and low turnover numbers. Thus, avibactam protects  $\beta$ -lactams from hydrolysis by a variety of enzymes. In this study, we evaluated the activity of ceftazidime combined with avibactam against a large collection of contemporary gram-negative clinical isolates recovered in hospitals located in the United States (USA) during 2012.

**Table 1. Summary of ceftazidime-avibactam activity tested against the organisms and resistant subsets included in this 2012 report (USA)**

Organism/resistant subset	No. of isolates	No. of isolates (cumulative %) inhibited at MIC ( $\mu$ g/mL) of:									
		$\leq 0.015$	0.03	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	8
Enterobacteriaceae	8,640	185 (2.1)	1,043 (14.2)	2,748 (46.0)	3,052 (81.3)	1,043 (93.4)	373 (97.7)	139 (99.3)	30 (99.7)	9 (99.8)	12 (99.9)
<i>E. coli</i>	2,767	131 (4.7)	210 (12.3)	1,171 (54.6)	1,050 (92.6)	167 (98.6)	28 (99.6)	9 (99.9)	1 (100.0)	--	--
ESBL-phenotype	328	5 (1.5)	6 (3.4)	56 (20.4)	168 (71.6)	61 (90.2)	22 (97.0)	9 (99.7)	1 (100.0)	--	--
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	1,847	22 (1.2)	67 (4.8)	625 (38.7)	725 (77.9)	217 (89.7)	121 (96.2)	49 (98.9)	16 (99.7)	3 (99.9)	0 (99.9)
ESBL-phenotype	296	5 (1.7)	0 (1.7)	14 (6.4)	58 (26.0)	60 (46.3)	89 (76.4)	49 (92.9)	16 (98.3)	3 (99.3)	0 (99.3)
<i>K. oxytoca</i>	442	--	29 (6.6)	205 (52.9)	148 (86.4)	41 (95.7)	10 (98.0)	9 (100.0)	--	--	--
ESBL-phenotype	44	--	2	2 (4.5)	18 (45.5)	10 (68.2)	7 (84.1)	7 (100.0)	--	--	--
<i>P. mirabilis</i>	683	12 (1.8)	437 (65.7)	206 (95.9)	23 (99.3)	4 (99.9)	1 (100.0)	--	--	--	--
ESBL-phenotype	33	--	11 (33.3)	16 (81.8)	5 (97.0)	1 (100.0)	--	--	--	--	--
<i>E. cloacae</i>	951	7 (0.7)	11 (1.9)	47 (6.8)	453 (54.5)	274 (83.3)	109 (94.7)	41 (99.1)	6 (99.7)	3 (100.0)	--
ceftazidime-non-susc. <sup>a</sup>	200	3 (1.5)	2 (1.0)	3 (3.5)	18 (12.5)	49 (37.0)	82 (78.0)	35 (95.5)	6 (98.5)	3 (100.0)	--
<i>E. aerogenes</i>	357	2 (0.6)	11 (3.6)	98 (31.1)	155 (74.5)	64 (92.4)	24 (99.2)	2 (99.7)	0 (99.7)	0 (99.7)	1 (100.0)
ceftazidime-non-susc. <sup>b</sup>	82	2 (2.4)	1 (3.7)	2 (6.1)	23 (34.1)	37 (79.3)	14 (96.3)	2 (98.8)	0 (98.8)	0 (98.8)	1 (100.0)
<i>M. morganii</i>	295	3 (1.0)	141 (48.8)	94 (80.7)	33 (91.9)	16 (97.3)	5 (99.0)	2 (99.7)	0 (99.7)	1 (100.0)	--
<i>A. baumannii</i>	186	2 (1.1)	9 (5.9)	101 (60.2)	57 (90.9)	12 (97.3)	1 (97.8)	4 (100.0)	--	--	--
<i>C. koseri</i>	186	--	2 (1.1)	29 (16.8)	84 (62.2)	46 (87.0)	13 (94.1)	8 (98.4)	2 (99.5)	0 (99.5)	1 (100.0)
<i>C. freundii</i>	185	--	2 (1.1)	29 (16.8)	84 (62.2)	46 (87.0)	13 (94.1)	8 (98.4)	2 (99.5)	0 (99.5)	1 (100.0)
<i>S. marcescens</i>	506	--	2 (0.4)	48 (9.9)	250 (53.9)	142 (87.4)	49 (97.0)	2 (99.0)	2 (99.4)	1 (99.6)	1 (100.0)
<i>P. vulgaris</i>	153	--	70 (45.8)	74 (94.1)	8 (99.3)	1 (100.0)	--	--	--	--	--
<i>P. Providentiae</i>	268	6 (2.2)	54 (22.4)	50 (41.0)	66 (65.7)	60 (88.1)	11 (92.2)	5 (94.0)	3 (95.1)	2 (95.9)	1 (99.6)
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	1,967	--	--	--	3 (0.2)	18 (1.2)	105 (6.6)	77 (46.1)	608 (77.0)	273 (90.9)	119 (96.9)
meropenem-non-susc. <sup>c</sup>	354	--	--	--	--	4 (1.1)	39 (12.1)	84 (35.9)	104 (65.3)	78 (87.3)	28 (95.2)
ceftazidime-non-susc. <sup>d</sup>	330	--	--	--	--	1 (0.3)	26 (8.2)	76 (31.2)	86 (57.3)	82 (82.1)	37 (93.3)
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp.	321	--	--	--	--	2 (0.6)	7 (2.8)	8 (5.3)	43 (18.7)	40 (31.2)</	