



CLINICAL AND
LABORATORY
STANDARDS
INSTITUTE

CLSI Update

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Objectives

- **The main focus of CLSI has been on developing Epidemiological Cut-off Value (ECVs) for drugs-bugs**
- **Introduce the concept of (ECVs),**
- **Start the process of educating the community about ECVs**

Basic Assumptions

- ECVs are a feature of a single species
 - they cannot be applied or extrapolated to a genus or other larger grouping
- ECVs are “the same everywhere”
 - they do not change over time or vary geographically

Clinical Breakpoints (CBPs) VS. (ECVs)

- ECVs are not always the same as CBPs
- CBPs are used to indicate those isolates that are likely to respond to treatment with a given antimicrobial
- **ECV:**
 - Define upper limit of “wild type” MIC distribution – **no acquired** resistance mechanisms
 - Establishes cutoffs to **help detect emergence of reduced susceptibility**, thereby may have utility in identifying strains with **acquired resistance**
 - **Light-Bulb:** the organism requires further characterization

- The ECV distinguishes between organisms **without and with phenotypically expressed resistance mechanisms** for a species and a drug in a defined test system.
 - Within a species, it is the highest MIC of organisms lacking phenotypically expressed resistance.

The CBP

- MIC-concentrations decided by “**Committee**” to distinguish treatable from non-treatable organisms.
- CBP may render the Wild Type Susceptible (S), Intermediate (I) or Resistant (R) but must not divide wild type organisms.

When should the ECV be considered in lieu of a formal clinical breakpoint

- When clinical data support the use of the drug for an approved indication and wild type organisms of one or several species.
- When there is a lack of convincing Pk/Pd data

ECVs in lieu of Clinical Breakpoints

- Can ECVs be used in lieu of clinical breakpoints?
- Never by default
- Yes, after consideration

When not to Use ECV

ECVs should not be used:

- when CBPs have been published
- as a strong predictor of clinical response to therapy but rather as an indicator of possible acquired resistance mechanisms which could impact response to treatment

ECV

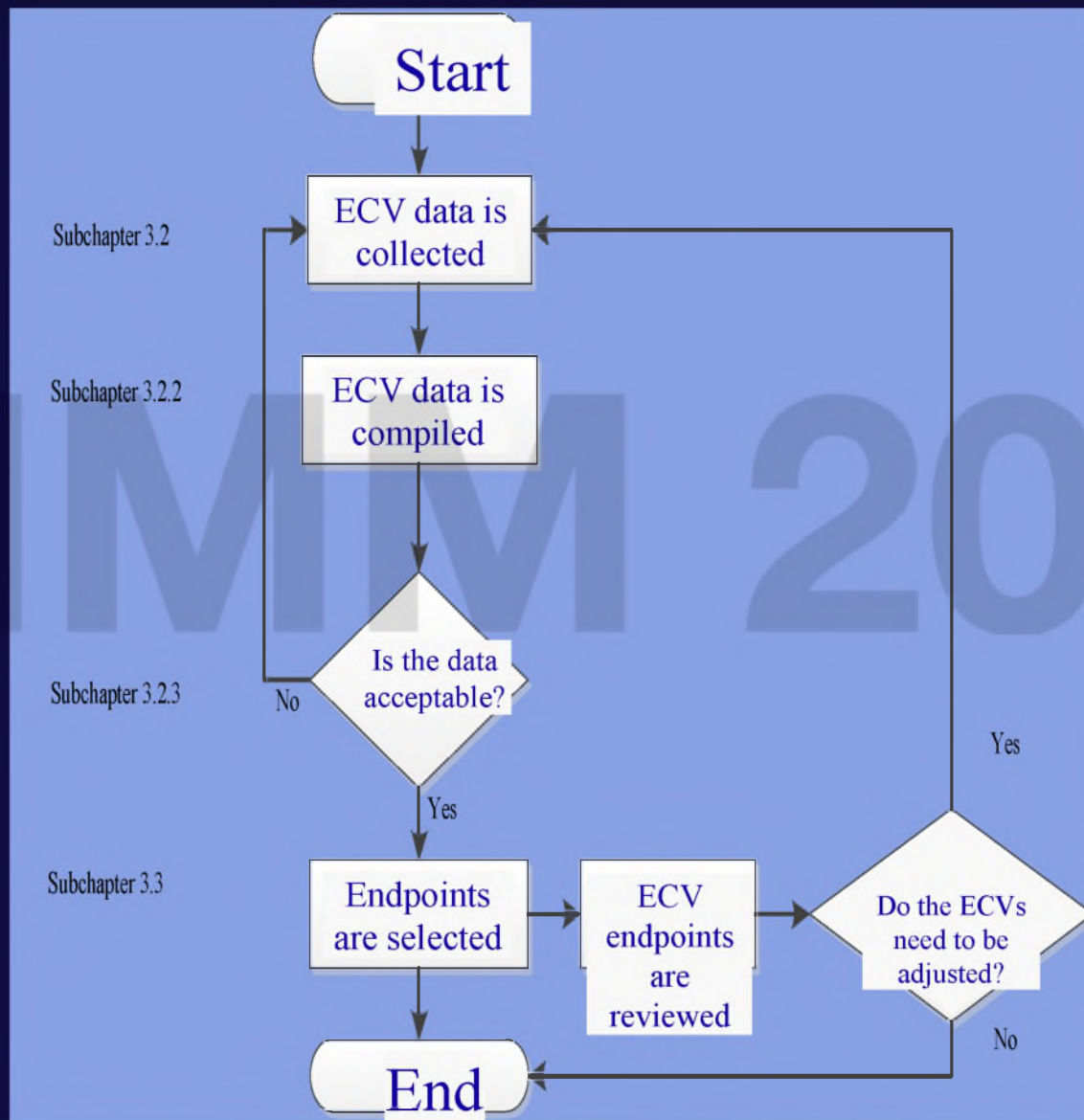
Allows the clinician to differentiate between

- Normal
 - I can rely on my clinical experience for this infection
- Different
 - I should be aware this case may respond differently

Important Question

- If ECVs are to be used for interpretation of susceptibility testing results:
 - should they be reported to the clinician?
 - if so, how?
- **Suggestion** – report as “N” = “Non-wild-type” with a comment/footnote”

The ECV Development Process



Subchapter 3.2.2

Subchapter 3.2.3

Subchapter 3.3

MIM 2015

Data Requirements

- The MICs must have been measured with a reference method
 - ISO 20776-1 in the case of bacteria
 - ISO 16256 in the case of yeasts
 - Other reference methods as they are developed and agreed upon internationally

Data Requirements

- All the MICs should, as far as is feasible, be on-scale
 - a small proportion of wild-type population values could be included as “ \leq ”
- ideally it should be $<5\%$, although it is possible to provide a reasonable estimate of ECVs if the mode is not also the lowest concentration tested
 - “ $>$ ” and “ \geq ” values are acceptable in the data set provided they are clearly separated from the wild-type population

Data Pooling

- Since there is known inter and intra-laboratory variation, data from several laboratories are required for estimation of ECVs to account for this variation
- The predictive power of ECVs increases as the number of laboratories increases
 - **A working rule:** a minimum of 3 labs, preferably with at least 35 presumptive wild-type values although a total of ≥ 100 overall is usually satisfactory

Estimation Methods

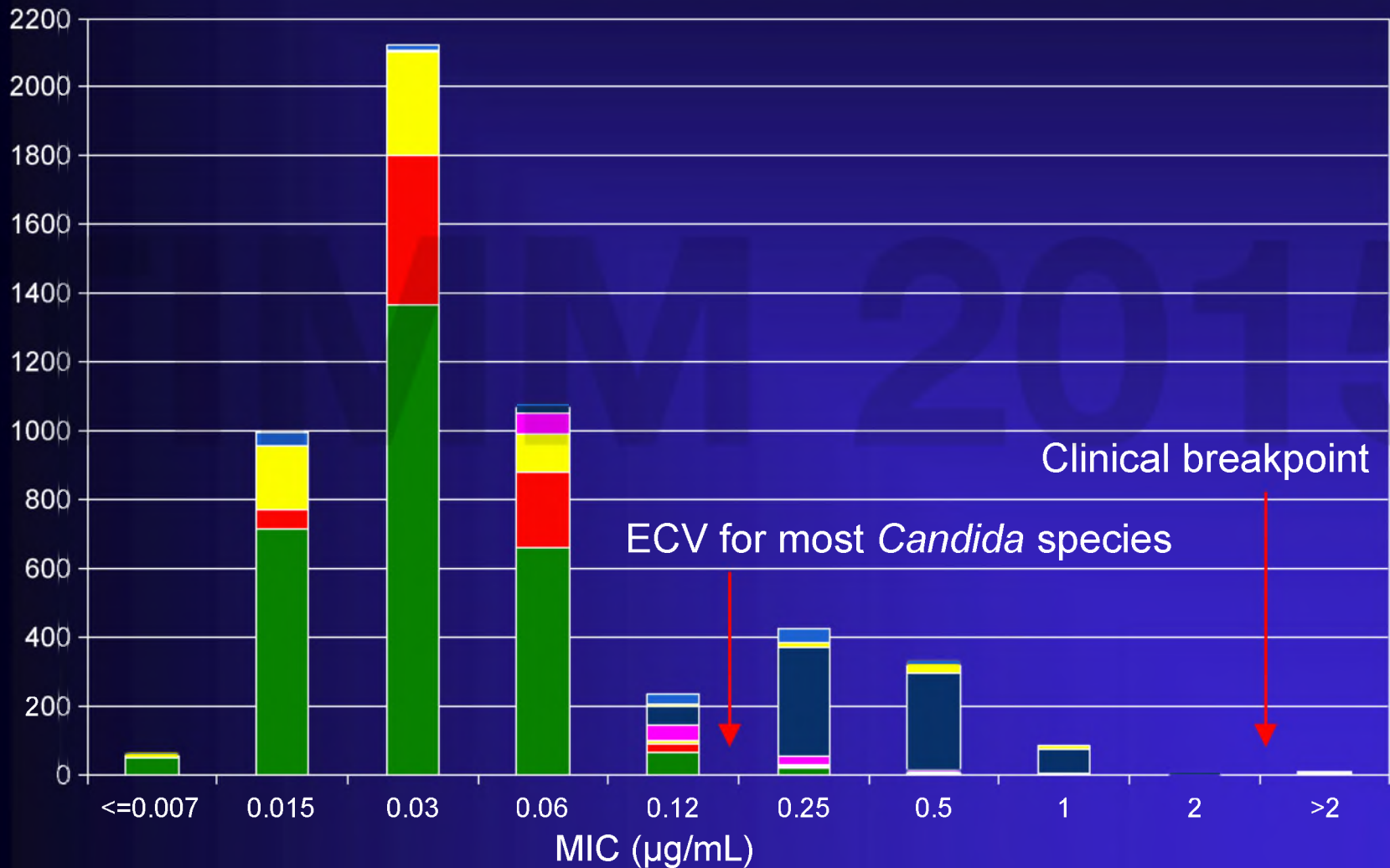
Six different methods have been proposed:

- The “Eyeball” method (Kahlmeter)
- The 95% Rule (Pfaller)
- The normalized resistance interpretation (Kronvall)
- The iterative statistical method (Turnidge)
- Multimodal analysis (Meletiadis)
- Cluster analysis (Canton)

Each has its own limitations

Caspofungin MIC distribution (N= 5346)

■ *C. albicans* ■ *C. glabrata* ■ *C. tropicalis* ■ *C. krusei* ■ *C. parapsilosis*



MIC Distributions of Three Echinocandins vs *Candida* spp. Strains Tested for the Presence of *fks1/fks2* Mutations

Species (no. tested)	Antifungal agent	No. of isolates at MIC (no. showing mutation)								
		≤0.03	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	≥8
<i>C. albicans</i> (52)	ANF	31	7	4(1)	-	2(2)	6(6)	2(2)	-	-
	CSF	15	23	3	-	2(2)	1(1)	3(3)	2(2)	3(3)
	MCF	31	7	3	2(2)	1(1)	2(2)	5(5)	1(1)	
<i>C. glabrata</i> (53)	ANF	12	15	7(1)	3	-	6(3)	5(5)	5(5)	-
	CSF	1	20	7	3(1)	1	8(3)	5(4)	2	6(6)
	MCF	25	9(1)	5(2)	5(3)	3(2)	1(1)	3(3)	2(2)	-
<i>C. tropicalis</i> (31)	ANF	18	6	1(1)	1	1(1)	4(4)	-	-	-
	CSF	8	12	3	3(1)	-	1(1)	2(2)	2(2)	-
	MCF	9	6	7	3(1)	3(2)	3(3)	-	-	-

Arendrup et al
Pfaller et al,

AAC2010;54:426-39
JCM 2010;48:1592-9

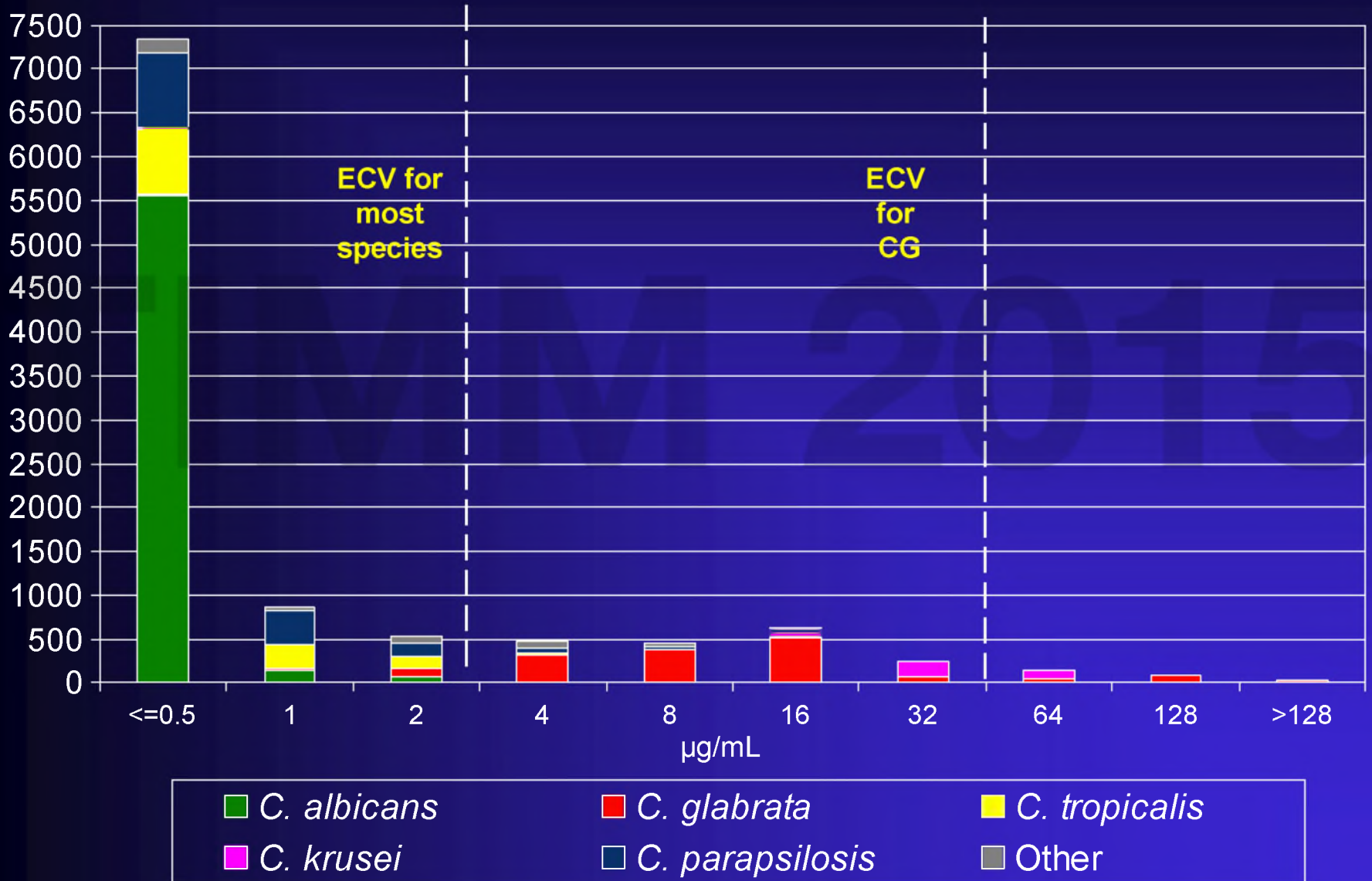
Application of Anidulafungin ECVs to *Candida* spp Strains Tested for Presence of *fks1/fks2* Mutations

- *C. albicans* (N =52)
 - ECV, 0.12 µg/ml
 - 42 WT: 1 (2.4%) with *fks* mutation
 - **10 non-WT: all with *fks* mutations**
- *C. glabrata* (N=53)
 - ECV, 0.25 µg/ml
 - 37 WT: 1 (2.7%) with *fks* mutation
 - **16 non-WT: 13 (81%) with *fks* mutations**
- *C. tropicalis* (N=31)
 - ECV, 0.12 µg/ml
 - 25 WT: 1 (4%) with *fks* mutation
 - **6 non-WT: 5 (83%) with *fks* mutations**

Epidemiological Cutoff Values (ECVs) for Azoles

MM 2015

Fluconazole MIC distribution tested for 10,803 invasive *Candida* spp.



Fluconazole ECVs for the Common Species of *Candida*

Species	ECV (mcg/ml)
<i>C. albicans</i>	0.5
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	2
<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	2
<i>C. glabrata</i>	32
<i>C. krusei</i>	64

** Species for which clinical data is available

Fluconazole ECVs for the Less Common Species of *Candida*

Species	ECV (mcg/ml)
<i>C. dubliniensis</i>	0.5
<i>C. guilliermondii</i>	8
<i>C. lusitaniae</i>	2
<i>C. kefyr</i>	1
<i>C. pelliculosa</i>	4

** Species for which clinical data is lacking

Epidemiological Cutoff Values (ECVs) for Fluconazole and Five Species of *Candida* Using the 24h CLSI and EUCAST BMD Methods

Species	Method	No. Isolates	MIC Mode (mcg/ml)	ECV (%)
<i>C albicans</i>	CLSI	8059	0.12	0.5 (98.1)
	EUCAST	15991	0.25	1(91.9)
<i>C glabrata</i>	CLSI	2240	4	32(91.5)
	EUCAST	5018	16	32(89.7)
<i>C parapsilosis</i>	CLSI	2117	0.5	2(93.2)
	EUCAST	2536	0.5	2 (92.6)
<i>C tropicalis</i>	CLSI	1771	0.25	2 (98.4)
	EUCAST	2229	0.5	2(93.7)
<i>C krusei</i>	CLSI	473	16	64 (99.8)
	EUCAST	673	32	128(98.4)

Pfaller et al, Drug Resist Updates 2010;13:180-195.

CMI 2008;14:193-5

Voriconazole ECVs for the Common Species of *Candida*

Species	ECV (mcg/ml)
<i>C. albicans</i>	0.03
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	0.06
<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	0.12
<i>C. glabrata</i>	0.5
<i>C. krusei</i>	0.5

** Species for which clinical data is available

Voriconazole ECVs for the Less Common Species of *Candida*

Species	ECV (mcg/ml)
<i>C. dubliniensis</i>	0.03
<i>C. guilliermondii</i>	0.25
<i>C. lusitaniae</i>	0.03
<i>C. kefyr</i>	0.015
<i>C. pelliculosa</i>	0.25

** Species for which clinical data is lacking

*Pfaller et al J Clin Microbiol 2012 ;50:2846-2856.

Aspergillus spp. and Azoles

- In vitro “reduced susceptibility” remains 0-5% in most large surveys, often using itraconazole
 - Most data for *A. fumigatus* complex
- Case reports and case series suggest that multiply-azole resistant *Aspergillus* could emerge
 - ? association with agricultural azole use

Rodriguez-Tudela, et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother 2008;52:2468.

Verweij, et al. N Engl J Med 2007;356:1481-83.

Arendrup, et al. Antimicrob Agents Chemother 2008;52:3504-11.

Howard, et al. Int J Antimicrob Agents Chemother 2006;28:450-53.

Snelders et al. PLoS Medicine 2008;5:e219.

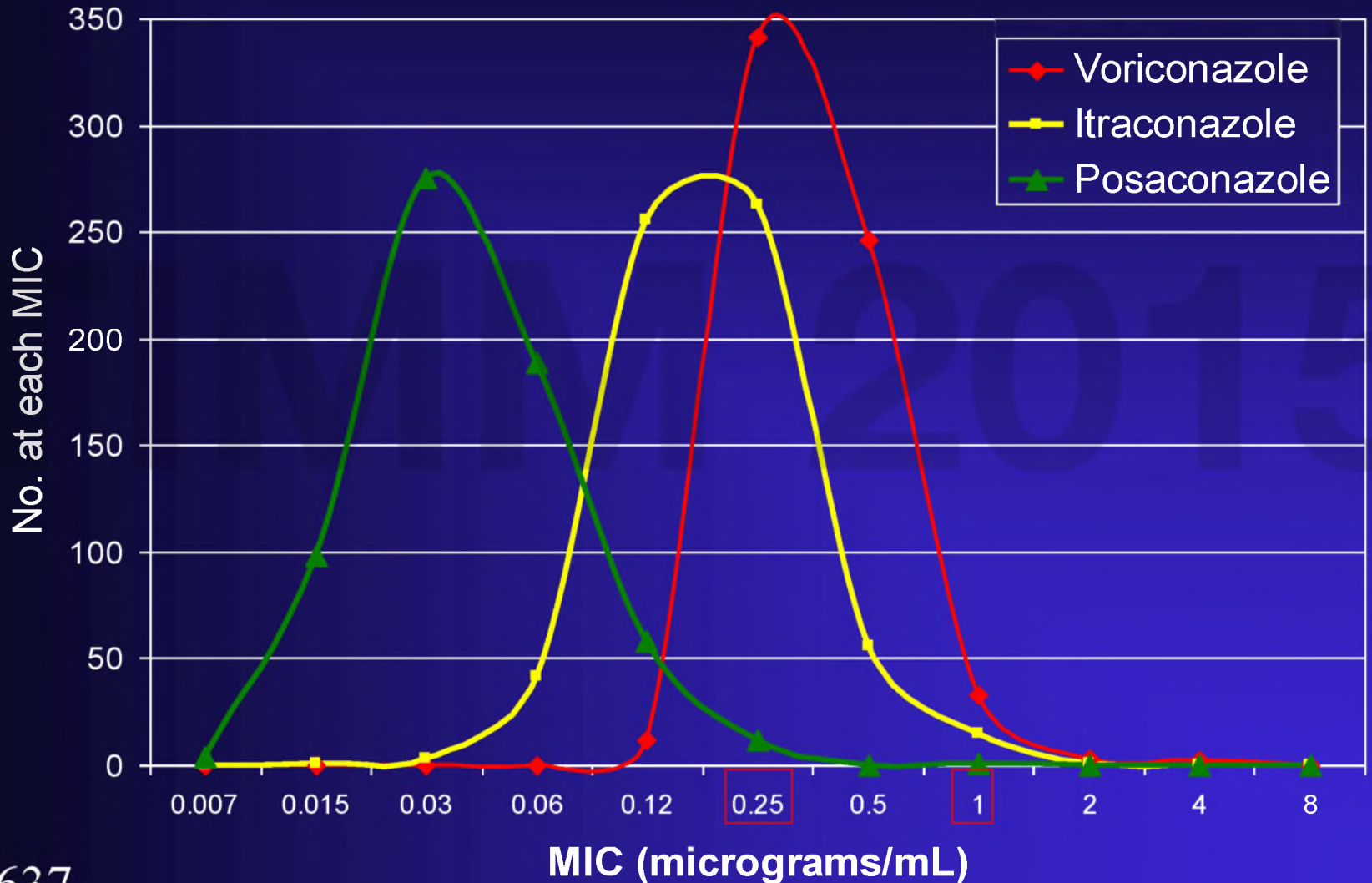
Azole Resistance Mechanisms in *Aspergillus fumigatus*

- Mutations involving *cyp51A* gene (target)
 - G54 mutation
 - Cross resistance between ITR and PSC
 - VRC, RVC MICs < 1 microgram/mL
 - M220 mutation
 - Complete cross resistance ITR, PSC, VRC, RVC
 - Tandem repeat – L98H (TR)
 - Complete cross resistance
- Decreased accumulation (slowed uptake/efflux) also described

Rodriguez-Tudela et al AAC 2008;52:2468-72.

Nascimento et al. AAC 2003;47:1719-26.

Voriconazole, Posaconazole, Itraconazole
Wild Type Distributions
Aspergillus fumigatus, 2005-2007



N=637

Resistance Mechanisms and Azole Cross Resistance in *A. fumigatus*

Strain type (N)	GM MIC ($\mu\text{g/mL}$)			
	ITR	VRC	RVC	PSC
WT (361)	0.32	0.53	0.60	0.08
G54 (9)	16	0.42	0.32	1.6
M220 (6)	16	1.0	1.85	0.65
TR (17)	16	3.7	6.8	0.68

Rodriguez-Tudela et al AAC 2008;52:2468-72

MIC Distributions of Three Azoles vs *A. fumigatus* Strains Tested for the Presence of *cyp51A* Mutations

Antifungal agent	No. tested	No. isolates at MIC (no. showing mutation)										
		0.007	0.015	0.03	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	≥8
ITR	28							3	13	1	1	10(8)
PSC	28							16	3(2)	8(6)	1	
VRC	28						2	13	4(1)	7(6)	1(1)	1

Lockhart et al AAC 2011; 55:4465-4468.

Note: All mutant strains were from China and contained the TR/L98H mutation in *cyp51A* (as well as S297T and F495I): all had unique microsatellite genotypes.

In vitro resistance confirmed by the sterol quantification method.

Cross-Resistance Between Itraconazole, Posaconazole, and Voriconazole Among 43 isolates of *A. fumigatus* with Decreased Susceptibility to Itraconazole

Antifungal agent	MIC (mcg/ml)			
	Range	Mode	ECV	% \leq ECV
ITR	2->8	2	1	0
PSC	0.007-2	0.5	0.25	46.5
VRC	0.12-4	0.25	1	93.0

Pfaller et al, J Clin Microbiol 2009;47:3142-6

MIC Distribution and CLSI ECV for Azoles and *A. fumigatus*

Antifungal agent (N)	MIC (mcg/ml)			
	Range	Mode	ECV	% ≤ECV
ITR (2,591)	0.03-≥4	0.5	1	98.8
PSC (1,684)	≤0.015-≥4	0.06	0.5	97.8
VRC (2,851)	0.03-≥4	0.25	1	98.2

Espinel-Ingroff et al, JCM 2010;48:3251-7

ECV for In Vitro Susceptibility Testing of Fungi With No/Lacking Interpretive Breakpoints

Antifungal Agent	Species	ECV ($\mu\text{g/mL}$) ^c
		97.5% Statistical
Amphotericin B	<i>C. albicans</i>	2
	<i>C. glabrata</i>	2
	<i>C. krusei</i>	2
	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	2
	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	2
Flucytosine	<i>C. albicans</i>	0.12
	<i>C. glabrata</i>	0.12
	<i>C. krusei</i>	32
	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	0.25
	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	0.25

^c ECVs that capture at least 97.5% of the statistically modeled population

ECV for In Vitro Susceptibility Testing of Fungi With No/Lacking Interpretive Breakpoints - Echinocandins

Antifungal Agent	Species	ECV ($\mu\text{g/mL}$) ^c
		97.5% Statistical
Anidulafungin	<i>C. dubliniensis</i>	0.12
	<i>C. lusitaniae</i>	1
Caspofungin	<i>A. flavus</i>	0.5
	<i>A. fumigatus</i>	0.5
	<i>A. niger</i>	0.25
	<i>A. terreus</i>	0.12
Micafungin	<i>C. dubliniensis</i>	0.12

^cECVs that capture at least 97.5% of the statistically modeled population

ECV for In Vitro Susceptibility Testing of Fungi With No/Lacking Interpretive Breakpoints - Azoles

°ECVs that capture at least 97.5% of the statistically modeled population

Antifungal Agent	Species	ECV (µg/ml) °
		97.5% Statistical
Isavuconazole	<i>A. flavus</i>	Skewed
	<i>A. fumigatus</i>	Skewed
	<i>A. niger</i>	Skewed
	<i>A. terreus</i>	Skewed
	<i>A. nidulans</i>	Skewed
Itraconazole	<i>A. flavus</i>	1
	<i>A. fumigatus</i>	1
	<i>A. terreus</i>	2
	<i>A. niger</i>	4
	<i>A. nidulans</i>	2
	<i>C. albicans</i>	0.12
	<i>C. glabrata</i>	4
	<i>C. krusei</i>	1
	<i>C. lusitaniae</i>	1
	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	0.5
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	0.5	
Posaconazole	<i>A. flavus</i>	0.5
	<i>A. fumigatus</i>	0.5
	<i>A. nidulans</i>	2
	<i>A. niger</i>	2
	<i>A. terreus</i>	1
Voriconazole	<i>A. flavus</i>	2
	<i>A. fumigatus</i>	1
	<i>A. nidulans</i>	0.5
	<i>A. niger</i>	2
	<i>A. terreus</i>	2

CLSI Working Group on ECVs

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- **Mary R. Motyl, Merck**
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- **John D. Turnidge, Adelaide, Australia**

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