Streptococci other than \textit{S. pneumoniae} - 12-Year Resistance Trends in Bacteraemia in the UK and Ireland

**BACKGROUND**

Alpha- and non-haemolytic streptococci cause about 9% of bacteraemias in the UK. Beta-haemolytic streptococci cause 5%. The BSAC Resistance Surveillance Project* has monitored their resistance in blood in the UK and Ireland since 2001.

**METHODS**

Each year, 25-40 clinical laboratories across the UK and Ireland contributed isolates from blood. Isolates were re-identified centrally by biochemical and Lancefield tests. MICs were determined by BSAC agar dilution and interpreted by BSAC / EUCAST breakpoints.

**RESULTS - ALPHA-HAEMOLYTIC STREPTOCOCCI: 2001 - 2012 (N = 2078)**

Proportions of different species appeared steady over 12 years; see graph for total numbers. All isolates were susceptible to imipenem, teicoplanin, vancomycin and linezolid.

- Among \textit{mitis/oralis, sanguinis} and \textit{salivarius} groups, non-susceptibility increased substantially to erythromycin, and to a lesser extent to penicillin and amoxicillin.
- Over 99\% of \textit{anginosus} and \textit{bovis} group isolates were susceptible to penicillin, and 92\% and 83\%, respectively, to erythromycin.
- Fewer isolates (6-11\%) were resistant to clindamycin than to erythromycin (8-45\%).

**CONCLUSIONS**

- Streptococci in the UK and Ireland remain widely susceptible to established antimicrobials.
- Different species and groups have very different susceptibility profiles.
- Erythromycin non-susceptibility has increased among \textit{S. mitis, S. sanguinis} & \textit{S. salivarius} groups over the last twelve years, and there is a similar trend for penicillin (from a lower baseline).

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