

## BACKGROUND

Intensive care units (ICU) are often considered to be a hotspot for development and dissemination of antibiotic resistance. We compared non-susceptibility (NS) in hospital-acquired infections (patients in hospital >48 hrs) between ICU and other wards, and between blood and respiratory infections (RTI).

## METHODS

BSAC Resistance Surveillance Project:<sup>1</sup>

- 32 clinical centres contributed clinically significant isolates.
- One central laboratory for RTI, one for blood.
- BSAC agar dilution MIC method with BSAC/EUCAST breakpoints; PCR for *mecA*.
- RTI 2008/09 & 2009/10; blood 2008 & 2009.
- Excluded: patients in hospital <48 hrs or missing data on treating speciality.

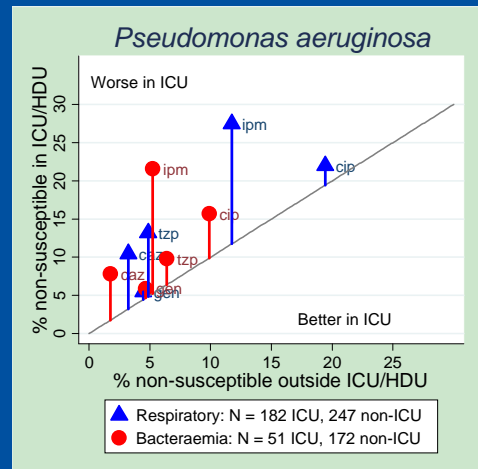
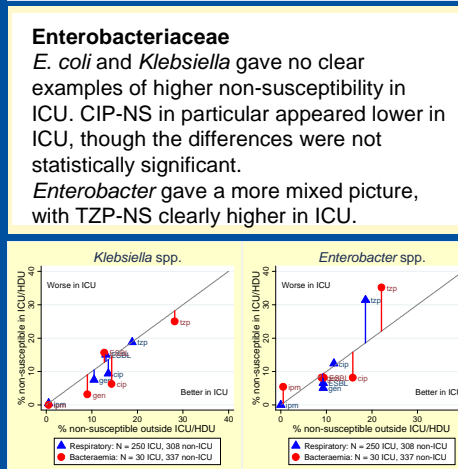
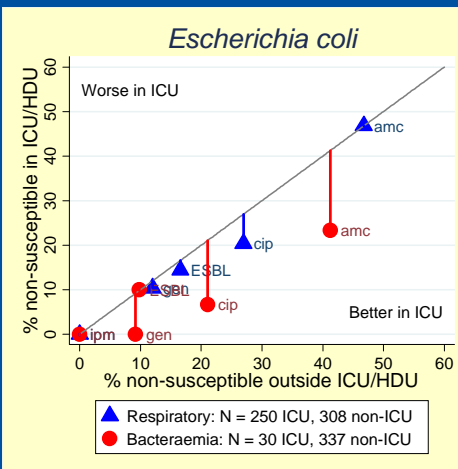
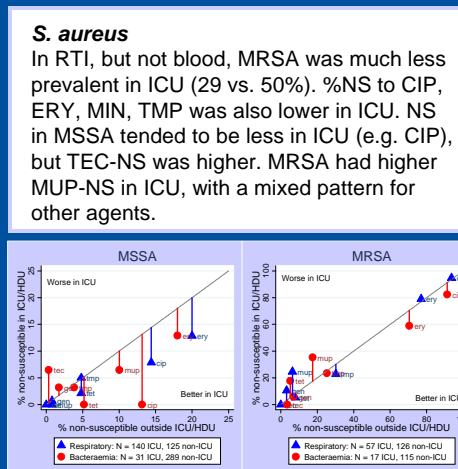
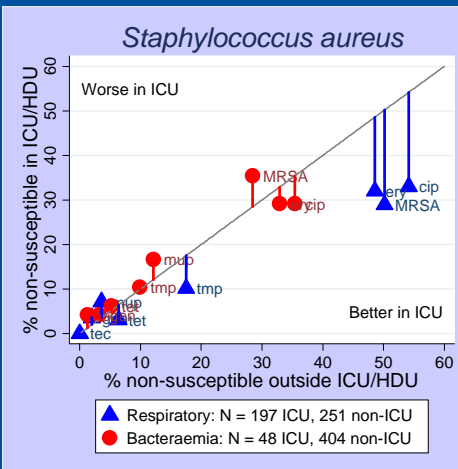
## RESULTS

Graphs compare non-susceptibility in and out of ICU for RTI and blood infections. 3594 isolates were included in analysis, 2105 from RTI and 1489 from blood.

The proportion from ICU was much higher among RTI than blood isolates. (There may be some bias in selecting 'clinically significant' RTI isolates outside ICU.)

% from ICU	RTI	Blood
<i>S. aureus</i>	44	11
<i>E. coli</i>	45	8
<i>Klebsiella</i>	53	15
<i>Enterobacter</i>	52	16
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	42	23

The distribution of patient age was very similar for RTI and blood infections. ICU included slightly more middle-aged patients and fewer very young or >75 years old.



**P. aeruginosa**  
Non-susceptibility appeared higher in ICU for all tested agents, significantly so for IPM and (in RTI) CAZ and TZP.

## CONCLUSIONS

- For hospital-acquired RTI and blood infections, non-susceptibility was not universally more prevalent in ICU than other settings.
- RTI *S. aureus* from ICU were substantially less likely than others to be non-susceptible.
- Non-susceptibility in *Pseudomonas* was generally more common in ICU for both RTI and blood infections.

**Antibiotic abbreviations** AMC amoxicillin-clavulanate, CAZ ceftazidime, CIP ciprofloxacin, ERY erythromycin, GEN gentamicin, IPM imipenem, MUP mupirocin, PEN penicillin, TEC teicoplanin, TET tetracycline, TZP piperacillin-tazobactam. **Note:** treat results for blood infections in ICU with caution when numbers are small.

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**Organism ID and Susceptibility Testing:** R. Hope<sup>6</sup> and K. Maher<sup>8</sup>.

**Collecting Laboratories:** See [www.bsacsurv.org](http://www.bsacsurv.org) or White 2008, JAC 62 (Suppl 2) ii3-ii14.

**Central Laboratories:** Health Protection Agency, London; Quotient Bioresearch Ltd.

**Sponsors 2008-2009:** Astellas, AstraZeneca, Cerexa, Johnson&Johnson, Novartis, Pfizer, Wyeth.

**Support:** BSAC.

<sup>1</sup>Reynolds 2008, JAC 62 (Suppl 2) ii15-ii18.

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