

© Author/ISA AH  
**'Resistant' or 'Susceptible' May  
Not Always be Your Answer**

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**AST Methods**

Agar diffusion

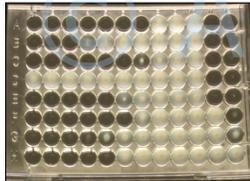
Disk diffusion (Kirby-Bauer)



Broth dilution

Microdilution

Macrodilution



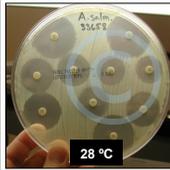
Agar dilution



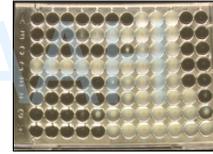
Agar diffusion

E-test





## Use Standardized Methods Whenever Possible



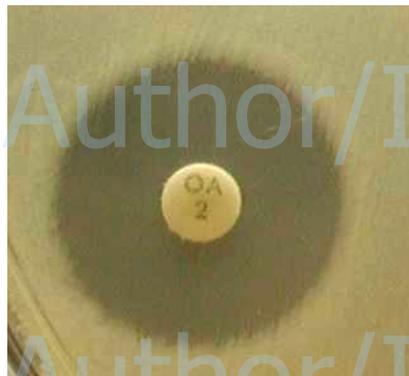
AST data are most reliable and reproducible if quality control procedures are used.

- Quality control testing should be performed each test day for MIC tests performed less than once a week.

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## Quality Control

QC ranges are used to monitor performance

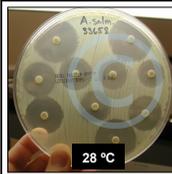


Zone = 34 mm

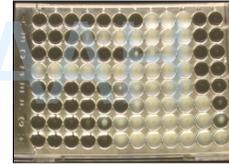
QC range  
25-32 mm

Must retest !

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## Use Standardized Methods Whenever Possible

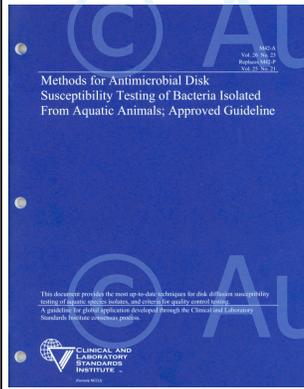


### M42-A Guideline

Disk diffusion testing at 22 °C and 28 °C

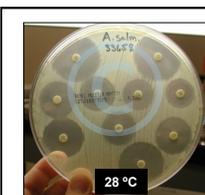
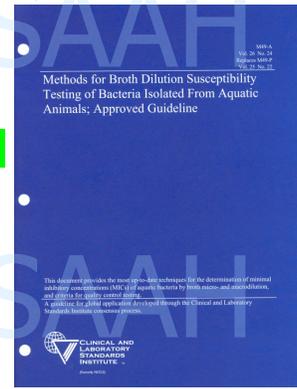
### M49-A Guideline

MIC testing at 22 °C and 28 °C

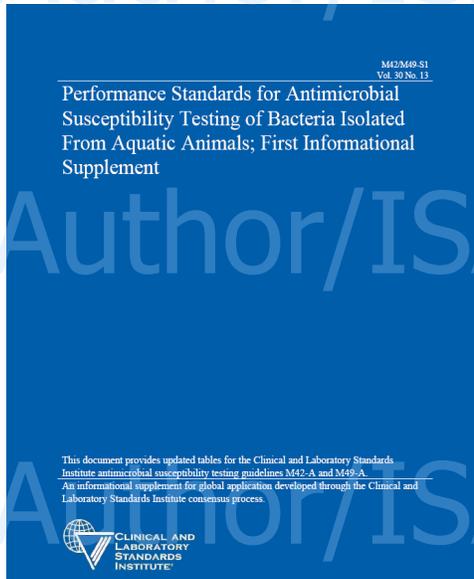
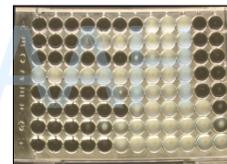


Global consensus documents

Provide methods and QC parameters, but no criteria for data interpretation



## New - M42/M49-S1



# Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing

Results can be used to...

Guide the clinical selection of an effective therapy  
(S, I, R)

*clinical breakpoints ~ for veterinarians*

Monitor changes in susceptibility  
(wild-type cutoffs)

*epidemiologic cutoff values ~ for epidemiologists*

## Reason for this Supplement:

### Clinical Breakpoints Currently Used in Fish Medicine

*bacterial species-independent! – genera grow very different in vitro*

Table 4  
Frequency distribution of breakpoints (mm) currently in use in responding laboratories for the nine most commonly tested antimicrobial agents

Zone (mm)	AMX 25 µg		ENR 5 µg		ERY 15 µg		FLO 30 µg		FLU 30 µg		OXA 2 µg		OTC 30 µg		SFO 25 µg		SFT 25 µg		
	S	R**	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	S	R	
6-7																			1
8-9																			3
10-11				1			1		2	1	6		4		3				7
12-13		3		2		3		5		3	2		1		3				4
14-15								1		1	2	1		10					3
16-17	1		1	5		2	1	3	1	2	1	1	2	1	3				1
18-19	1		2	1	3		5	1	3	2	1	1	12	2	6				6
20-21			1				4	2	2	3			2	1	1				1
22-23	1		5			1		1					1		1				2
24-25							2	1			1	1							1
26-27									2										3
28-29						1							1						1
30-31			1				1		2										3
32-33							1		1				1						1
34-35													1						2
36-37																			
38-39														1					
40-41																			
42-43									1	1									
44-45																			

Abbreviations: AMX, amoxicillin; ENR Enrofloxacin; ERY, erythromycin, FLO florfenicol; FLU, flumequine; OTC, oxytetracycline; OXA oxolinic acid; SFO, ometoprim/sulfadimethoxine; SFT, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole; S\* indicates breakpoints used to determine sensitivity. R\*\* indicates breakpoints used to determine resistance.

This survey revealed many labs may be advising antibiotic treatment of fish or fish populations infected with bacteria that are in fact resistant to that antibiotic.

survey from P. Smith, Aquaculture. 2006

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**M42/M49-S1**

**Includes the 1<sup>st</sup> Clinical Breakpoints\* for any  
 aquaculture pathogen  
 (*Aeromonas salmonicida*)**

Antimicrobial Agent	Disk Content	Zone Diameter Breakpoint (mm)			MIC Breakpoint (µg/mL)			Comments
		S	I	R	S	I	R	
<b>TETRACYCLINES</b>								
Oxytetracycline	30 µg	≥ 28	22-27	≤ 21	≤ 1	2-4	≥ 8	Class representative for tetracyclines Established based on zone diameter and MIC distributions of 323 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates (Miller and Reimschuessel, 2006; Smith et al., 2007) and clinical correlations from 2 studies (Coyne et al., 2004)
<b>QUINOLONES</b>								
Oxolinic acid	2 µg	≥ 30	25-29	≤ 24	≤ 0.12	0.25-0.5	≥ 1	Established based on zone diameter and MIC distributions of 323 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates ((Miller and Reimschuessel, 2006; Smith et al., 2007) ) and clinical correlations from 4 studies (O'Grady et al., 1987; O'Grady and Smith, 1992; Smith and O'Grady, 2006; Hastings and McKay, 1987).

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**Example 1**

***Clinical situation***

- *Aeromonas salmonicida* isolate from the spleen of an Atlantic salmon
- Drug of interest for treatment purposes – oxytetracycline
- Testing methods – disk diffusion and broth microdilution

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# How do we interpret this data?

*Aeromonas salmonicida*

Zone = 20 mm



## Susceptible?

-an infection may be appropriately treated with the dosage regimen

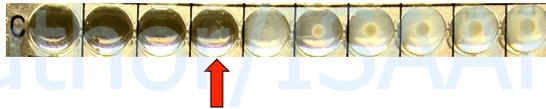
## Intermediate?

-an infection may be appropriately treated in specific body sites or when a high dose of drug can be used

## Resistant?

-pathogens are not usually inhibited by achievable concentrations, and clinical efficacy has not been reliable in treatment studies

MIC = 8 µg/mL



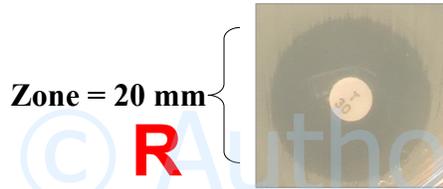
## M42/M49-S1

Includes the 1<sup>st</sup> Clinical Breakpoints\* for any aquaculture pathogen  
(*Aeromonas salmonicida*)

Antimicrobial Agent	Disk Content	Zone Diameter Breakpoint (mm)			MIC Breakpoint (µg/mL)			Comments
		S	I	R	S	I	R	
<b>TETRACYCLINES</b>								
Oxytetracycline	30 µg	≥ 28	22-27	≤ 21	≤ 1	2-4	≥ 8	
<b>QUINOLONES</b>								
Oxolinic acid	2 µg	≥ 30	25-29	≤ 24	≤ 0.12	0.25-0.5	≥ 1	

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 Interpreted as...

*Aeromonas salmonicida*

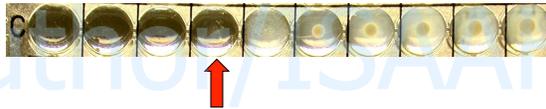


**R**

**Resistant?**

-pathogens are not usually inhibited by achievable concentrations, and clinical efficacy has not been reliable in treatment studies

**R**  
 MIC = 8 µg/mL



Oxytet Breakpoints Currently Used in Fish Medicine

Zone (mm)	OTC 30 µg	
	S	R
6-7		
8-9		
10-11		4
12-13	1	3
14-15	1	10
16-17	2	1
18-19	12	2
20-21	2	1
22-23	I	
24-25		
26-27		
28-29	I	
30-31	1	
32-33	1	
34-35		1
36-37		
38-39	1	
40-41		
42-43		
44-45		

Many labs may be advising treatment with oxytetracycline to fish populations infected with bacteria that are in fact resistant.

CLSI clinical breakpoints for *A. salmonicida*

survey from P. Smith, Aquaculture. 2006

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**Example 2**

***Surveillance/Monitoring situation***

- *Aeromonas salmonicida* isolate from the spleen of an Atlantic salmon
- Drug of interest for ~~treatment~~ classification purposes – **florfenicol**
- Testing methods – disk diffusion and broth microdilution

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How do we interpret this data?

*Aeromonas salmonicida*

Zone = 24 mm



**Wild-type?**

- implies isolate is susceptible to the antimicrobial (no resistance mechanisms)

**Non Wild-type?**

- implies the isolate possesses acquired and/or mutational resistance mechanisms

MIC = 8 µg/mL



## M42/M49-S1

Includes the **1<sup>st</sup> Epidemiologic Cutoff Values\*** for any aquaculture pathogen  
(*Aeromonas salmonicida*)

Antimicrobial Agent	Disk Content	Zone Diameter Cutoff (mm)		MIC Cutoff ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )		Comments
		WT	NWT	WT	NWT	
<b>AMINOGLYCOSIDES</b>						
Gentamicin	10 $\mu\text{g}$	$\geq 18$	$\leq 17$	-	-	Established based on a zone diameter distribution of 106 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates (Smith et al., 2007)
<b>MACROLIDES</b>						
Erythromycin	15 $\mu\text{g}$	$\geq 14$	$\leq 13$	-	-	Established based on a zone diameter distribution of 106 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates (Smith et al., 2007)
<b>PHENICOLS</b>						
Florfenicol	30 $\mu\text{g}$	$\geq 27$	$\leq 26$	$\leq 4$	$\geq 8$	Established based on zone diameter and MIC distributions of 323 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates (Miller and Reimschuessel, 2006; Smith et al., 2007)
<b>FOLATE PATHWAY INHIBITORS</b>						
Ormetoprim-sulfadimethoxine	1.25/23.75 $\mu\text{g}$	$\geq 20$	$\leq 19$	$\leq 0.5/9.5$	$\geq 1/19$	Established based on zone diameter and MIC distributions of 217 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates (Miller and Reimschuessel, 2006)
Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole	1.25/23.75 $\mu\text{g}$	$\geq 20$	$\leq 19$	-	-	Established based on zone diameter distributions of 106 <i>A. salmonicida</i> isolates (Douglas et al., 2007)

Interpreted as...

*Aeromonas salmonicida*

Zone = 24 mm

**NWT**



**Non Wild-type?**

- implies the isolate possesses acquired and/or mutational resistance mechanisms

**NWT**

MIC = 8  $\mu\text{g/mL}$



## Florfenicol Breakpoints Currently Used in Fish Medicine

Zone (mm)	FLO 30 µg	
	S	R
6-7		
8-9		
10-11		1
12-13		5
14-15		1
16-17	1	3
18-19	5	1
20-21	4	2
22-23	1	
24-25	2	1
26-27		
28-29		
30-31	I	
32-33	1	
34-35		
36-37		
38-39		
40-41		
42-43		
44-45		

CLSI epidemiologic cutoff for *A. salmonicida*

Most labs are potentially misclassifying the susceptibility of *A. salmonicida* isolates to florfenicol.

P. Smith, Aquaculture. 2006

## Interpreting Antibiotic Susceptibility Test Data

Use clinical breakpoints (S, I, R) when available, to guide the clinical selection of an effective therapy

~ for veterinarians

Use epidemiologic cutoff values (NWT, WT), if you need to monitor for changes in susceptibility

~ for epidemiologists



## © Author/ISAAH So What Data are Still Needed?

### 3. Pharmacokinetics data in serum/plasma during and after the dosing interval.

**Provides vital data on achievable drug concentrations using a given dose under specific conditions.**

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#### ➤ CLSI

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Thank you!

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