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**УРОЛОГІЯ**

## New antibiotics in the treatment of urinary tract infections

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### SUMMARY

Antibiotics are very often prescribed for the indication urinary tract infections (UTIs). Therefore, UTIs are an important field for the development of antibiotic resistance. A number of new antibiotics have been tested for the indication complicated UTI / pyelonephritis. These are cephalosporins and carbapenems, in combination with new beta-lactamase inhibitors, ceftiderocol as a new type of cephalosporin, plazomicin a new aminoglycoside, eravacycline a new tetracycline, and intravenous fosfomycin. Not all antibiotics are approved in Europe. Although the development of these new substances is promising, these new antibiotics should be used very carefully to avoid the development of new antibiotic resistance against these new substances.

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are among the most common bacterial infections in outpatient practice and in hospitals and occur in many specialist areas, such as internal medicine, gynecology, urology, intensive care medicine, etc. The clinical spectrum of urinary tract infections ranges from benign to life-threatening infections (1). Antibiotics are very often prescribed for the indication UTI, therefore UTIs are an important field for the development of antibiotic resistance. Most of the new antimicrobials that are effective against gram-negative bacteria have been studied in complicated UTI / pyelonephritis. The clinical studies of phases 2 and 3 that have been carried out in the last 5 years for this indication are presented here.

In the ASPECT cUTI phase 3 study from 2015, ceftolozane / tazobactam 1.5 g / q8h was compared with a high levofloxacin dose of 750 mg / q24h in

1083 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis (2). The duration of treatment was 7 days. Patients were included if they had symptoms, pyuria, and significant bacteriuria, defined as  $e \geq 10^5$  CFU / ml. The co-primary endpoint was microbiological eradication and clinical cure 5-9 days after treatment. The composite cure rates were 76.9% in the ceftolozane / tazobactam arm and 68.4% in the levofloxacin arm, confirming the superiority of ceftolozane / tazobactam.

In the phase 3 RECAPTURE study, ceftazidime / avibactam 2.5 g / q8h was compared with doripenem 500 mg / q8h in 1033 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis (3). The duration of treatment was 10 to 14 days, with the option of oral down step therapy with ciprofloxacin or trimethoprim / sulfamethoxazole after 5 days i.v. therapy. The co-primary endpoints were the

proportion of patients with symptomatic cure of UTI-specific symptoms (clinical cure) on day 5 and the proportion of patients with both microbiological eradication and symptomatic cure of UTI-specific symptoms on the Test of Cure (TOC). The clinical cure rate was 70.2% for ceftazidime / avibactam and 66.2% for doripenem on day 5, confirming non-inferiority. The combined symptomatic cure / microbiological eradication at TOC was 71.2% for ceftazidime / avibactam and 64.5% for doripenem and showed superiority.

In a pilot study from 2017, therapy in 36 patients with pyelonephritis by ESBL-producing *E. coli* was investigated (4). All patients received an i.v. carbapenem for 3 days and were then randomized to either oral sitafloxacin 100 mg / q12h or i.v. Ertapenem 1 g / q24h. The primary endpoint was clinical cure on day 10. The clinical cure rates were 100% in the sitafloxacin group and 94.1% in the ertapenem group, which showed statistically comparable results in both groups. 94.4% of the ESBL *E. coli* isolates were sensitive to sitafloxacin.

A randomized, open study from 2017 examined piperacillin / tazobactam 4.5 g / q6h versus cefepime 2 g / q12h or ertapenem 1 g / q24h in 72 patients with nosocomial UTIs due to ESBL-producing *E. coli*, including septic shock (5). The duration of treatment was 10 to 14 days. The clinical cure rates were 93.9% with piperacillin / tazobactam and 97% with ertapenem, and the difference was not statistically significant. After 6 patients had been recruited into the cefepime group, the assignment to cefepime was terminated prematurely due to the high failure rate in 4/6 patients, including 2 deaths.

A phase 2 study from 2017 compared imipenem / relebactam 625 mg / q6h with imipenem / relebactam 750 mg / q6h or imipenem alone 500 mg / q6h in 302 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis (6). The duration of treatment was up to 14 days, and oral therapy with ciprofloxacin was possible after 4 days i.v. treatment. The primary endpoint was the proportion of patients with a microbiological response. The microbiological response rates were 95.5% for imipenem / relebactam 750 mg, 98.6% for imipenem / relebactam 625 mg, and 98.7% for imipenem alone, and demonstrated non-inferiority for both regimens.

The 2018 TANGO I phase 3 study compared meropenem / vaborbactam 4g / q8h with piperacillin / tazobactam 4.5 / q8h in 585 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis (7). The duration of treatment was 10 days. Oral therapy with levofloxacin 500 mg / q24h was possible after 5 days i.v. treatment. The primary endpoint was clinical cure and microbiological eradication at the end of the i.v. treatment. The overall success rate

was 98.4% with meropenem / vaborbactam versus 94.0% with piperacillin / tazobactam, meeting at least non-inferiority of meropenem / vaborbactam.

In a phase 2 study from 2018, cefiderocol 2g / q8h was compared with imipenem / cilastatin 1g / q8h in 495 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis (8, 9). The duration of treatment was 7 to 14 days. The primary efficacy endpoint was clinical and microbiological response. Patients were included if they had symptoms, pyuria, and bacteriuria with gram-negative uropathogens  $\geq 10^5$  CFU / ml who were sensitive to the study drugs. The combined clinical and microbiological response was 73% in the cefiderocol group and 55% in the imipenem / cilastatin group. Statistically, this achieved non-inferiority. Microbiological cure was superior for cefiderocol.

In the IGNITE3 phase 3 study from 2018, eravacycline 1.5 mg / body weight / q24h was compared with ertapenem 1 g / q24h in 1205 patients with complicated UTIs (10). The duration of treatment was 5 to 10 days. The co-primary endpoints were a combination of clinical cure and microbiological success. The combined clinical and microbiological response rates were 68.5% for eravacycline and 74.9% for ertapenem. Statistically, non-inferiority was not achieved.

The ZEUS study was a phase 2/3 study from 2019 in which fosfomycin i.v. 6 g / q8h versus piperacillin / tazobactam 4.5 g / q8h in 465 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis was compared (11). The duration of treatment was 7 to 14 days. The primary efficacy endpoint was clinical and microbiological response. The combined clinical and microbiological response was 64.7% in the fosfomycin group and 54.5% in the piperacillin / tazobactam group, showing statistically non-inferiority. A post-hoc analysis was carried out to redefine the microbiological eradication through molecular genotyping and led to a virtually superior result in favor of fosfomycin.

The EPIC phase 3 study from 2019 examined plazomicin 15 mg / body weight q24h versus meropenem 1g / q8h in 609 patients with complicated UTI / pyelonephritis (12). The duration of treatment was 7 to 10 days, with an optional oral therapy after 4 days i.v. therapy. The primary endpoint was clinical and microbiological response. It was required that at least one qualifying pathogen that was sensitive to both meropenem and plazomicin was present. On day 5, the response was 88.0% in the plazomicin arm and 91.4% in the meropenem arm, confirming non-inferiority. At TOC, the response was 81.7% in the plazomicin arm and 70.1% in the meropenem arm, which showed statistical superiority.

A number of new antibiotics or fixed antibiotic combinations have been tested in the last 5 years for the indication of complicated UTI / pyelonephritis. On the one hand there are cephalosporins and carbapenems, which have been combined with new beta-lactamase inhibitors. These studies have shown that this creates new therapeutic options for ESBL-producing enterobacteria and, in some cases, carbapenemase-producing bacteria. A new cephalosporin, cefiderocol, mediates a new mechanism in which the antibiotic molecule complexes with iron ions and is absorbed into the bacterial cell as a complex via special iron absorption systems, thus avoiding a resistance mechanism. The broad antibacterial spectrum of cefiderocol is very promising. A new tetracycline (eravacycline) has not been approved for UTIs because it was less effective than ertapenem. A new aminoglycoside plazomicin showed very good results even with multi-resistant pathogens. The company was unable to develop the drug further due to economic factors, so it is not approved in Europe. As an already approved antibiotic, fosfomicin administered as i.v. therapy could show that it is suitable as a monotherapeutic agent for the indication of complicated UTI / pyelonephritis.

Even though the development of these new antibiotic substances is very promising, these new antibiotics should be used very carefully to avoid the development of new antibiotic resistance.

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## РЕФЕРАТ

### Нові антибіотики в лікуванні інфекцій сечовивідних шляхів

Ф.М. Вагенленер

Антибіотики дуже часто призначають при симптомах інфекцій сечовивідних шляхів (ІСШ). Отже, ІСШ є важливою областю розвитку стійкості до антибіотиків. Деякі нові антибіотики були протестовані для індикації ускладненого ІСШ / піелонефриту. Це цефалоспори́ни і карбопенеми в поєднанні з новими інгібіторами бета-лактамаз, цефідерокол як новий тип цефалоспори́ну, плазоміцин новий аміноглікозид, еравациклін новий тетрациклін і внутрішньо-

## РЕФЕРАТ

### Новые антибиотики в лечении инфекций мочевыводящих путей

Ф.М. Вагенленер

Антибиотики очень часто назначают при симптомах инфекций мочевыводящих путей (ИМП). Следовательно, ИМП являются важной областью развития устойчивости к антибиотикам. Некоторые новые антибиотики были протестированы для индикации осложненного ИМП / пиелонефрита. Это цефалоспорины и карбопенеми в сочетании с новыми ингибиторами бета-лактамаз, цефидерокол как новый тип цефалоспори́на, плазомицин новий аміноглікозид,

венний фосфоміцин. Не всі антибіотики схвалені в Європі. Хоча розробка цих нових речовин є багатообіцяючою, ці нові антибіотики слід використовувати дуже обережно, щоб уникнути розвитку нової стійкості до антибіотиків проти цих нових речовин.

**Ключові слова:** інфекції сечовивідних шляхів, Європа, резистентність, антибіотики.

эравациклин новый тетрациклин и внутривенный фосфоміцин. Не все антибиотик одобрены в Европе. Хотя разработка этих новых веществ является многообещающей, эти новые антибиотик следует использовать очень осторожно, чтобы избежать развития новой устойчивости к антибиотикам против этих новых веществ.

**Ключевые слова:** инфекции мочевыводящих путей, Европа, резистентность, антибиотики.