

# Antimicrobial Activity of Dalbavancin against Clinical Isolates of Coagulase-Negative Staphylococci (CoNS) from United States and Europe Stratified by Species

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## INTRODUCTION

- Changes in patient populations, such as increased numbers of chronically ill, immunocompromised patients, premature newborns, and elderly, coupled with the increasing use of inserted foreign bodies, led to a recognition of the large variety of infections caused by coagulase-negative staphylococci (CoNS).
- The development and widespread use of MALDI-TOF-MS allowed a better understanding of the clinical importance of different CoNS species.
- S. epidermidis* by far is the most prevalent CoNS in microbiological samples and the primary cause of CoNS-related infections, particularly in nosocomial settings; however, the clinical relevance of many other CoNS species, such as *Staphylococcus lugdunensis*, *S. haemolyticus*, *S. hominis*, *S. simulans*, and *S. warneri*, is increasing continuously.
- Dalbavancin allows for the very convenient parenteral administration in a single dose of 1500 mg or a dose of 1000 mg followed by 500 mg a week later to treat ABSSSI.
- Single or multiple dalbavancin doses have been demonstrated to be a potential strategy for the treatment of endocarditis, osteomyelitis, septic arthritis, pneumonia, prosthetic joint infections, intra-abdominal infections, and bacteremia, although it is not approved for these indications.
- We evaluated the *in vitro* activity of dalbavancin and comparators against a large collection of CoNS from US and European hospitals.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

- A total of 5,088 CoNS isolates considered clinically significant (multiple infection types) were collected from 79 medical centers in the US (n=2,707) and 43 medical centers in 21 European countries (n=2,381) over 6 years (2014-2019) (one/patient episode).
- Isolates were determined to be clinically significant based on local guidelines and submitted to a central monitoring laboratory (JMI Laboratories, North Liberty, Iowa, USA) as part of the International Dalbavancin Evaluation of Activity (IDEA) Surveillance Program.
- The participating laboratory initially identified isolates, and the reference monitoring laboratory confirmed bacterial identifications by standard algorithms and supported by MALDI-TOF-MS (Bruker Daltonics, Bremen, Germany).
- Isolates were tested for susceptibility by broth microdilution following guidelines in the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) M07 document.

## RESULTS

- Overall, 2,721 (53.5%) isolates were from bloodstream infections (BSI), 1,451 (28.5%) from SSSI, 348 (6.8%) from UTI, and 568 (11.2%) from other infection sites.
  - Among isolates from BSI, the most common species were *S. epidermidis* (61.3%), *S. hominis* (14.7%), *S. haemolyticus* (8.9%), and *S. capitis* (6.5%; Figure 1A).
  - Among non-BSI isolates, the most common species were *S. epidermidis* (46.9%), *S. lugdunensis* (23.0%), *S. haemolyticus* (8.8%), and *S. capitis* (6.5%; Figure 1B).
- Moreover, 60.0% of *S. epidermidis* and 53.7% of *S. haemolyticus* were from BSI, 82.2% of *S. saprophyticus* isolates were from UTI, and 74.9% of *S. lugdunensis* isolates were from SSSI (data not shown).
- Dalbavancin (MIC<sub>50/90</sub> 0.03/0.06 mg/L) inhibited >99.9% of CoNS at ≤0.25 mg/L (CLSI and US FDA susceptible breakpoint for *S. aureus*) and 99.1% at ≤0.12 mg/L (EUCAST breakpoint; Table 1).
  - All isolates from the US were inhibited at the dalbavancin MIC of ≤0.25 mg/L (US FDA), and 99.0% of isolates from Europe were inhibited at ≤0.12 mg/L (EUCAST; Table 1).
- Vancomycin (>99.9% susceptibility), daptomycin (99.9%), linezolid (98.7%), and teicoplanin (98.6%) were very active against all CoNS species per CLSI and EUCAST criteria (Table 2).
- Teicoplanin susceptibility rates ranged from (CLSI/EUCAST) 95.3/80.2% for *S. haemolyticus* to 100.0/100.0% for *S. lugdunensis*, *S. saprophyticus*, and *S. simulans* (CLSI; Table 2).
- Susceptibility to daptomycin was 99.9%, with only 3 daptomycin non-susceptible strains (all with a daptomycin MIC of 2 mg/L) being observed, 2 *S. pettenkoferi* and 1 *S. epidermidis* (Table 2).
- Linezolid was active against 97.8% of BSI isolates and 99.7% on non-BSI isolates (MIC<sub>50</sub> 0.5 mg/L and MIC<sub>90</sub> 1 mg/L for both groups; Table 3).
- Overall, 60.7% of isolates were oxacillin-resistant (MRCoNS).
  - MRCoNS rates were 57.1% in US isolates and 64.6% among isolates from Europe (Table 2).
  - Oxacillin-resistance rates varied from as low as 4.6% for *S. lugdunensis* and 33.0% for *S. capitis* to as high as 84.0% for *S. haemolyticus* and 97.0% for *S. saprophyticus* (Table 2).
- BSI isolates were less susceptible (CLSI) to oxacillin (32.3% versus 47.4%), clindamycin (69.4% versus 77.7%), erythromycin (35.6% versus 48.5%), levofloxacin (47.3% versus 67.9%), tetracycline (85.0% versus 87.9%), and trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX; 64.3% versus 76.9%) than non-BSI isolates (Table 3).

## CONCLUSIONS

- Dalbavancin demonstrated potent *in vitro* activity against all clinically significant CoNS species, including many uncommonly isolated species for which very limited susceptibility information is available to guide contemporary therapy.
- Dalbavancin, daptomycin, and vancomycin were equally active against BSI and non-BSI isolates.
- Clinical studies of dalbavancin for treatment of CoNS infections should be considered based on these *in vitro* data.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Figure 1. Frequency of CoNS species

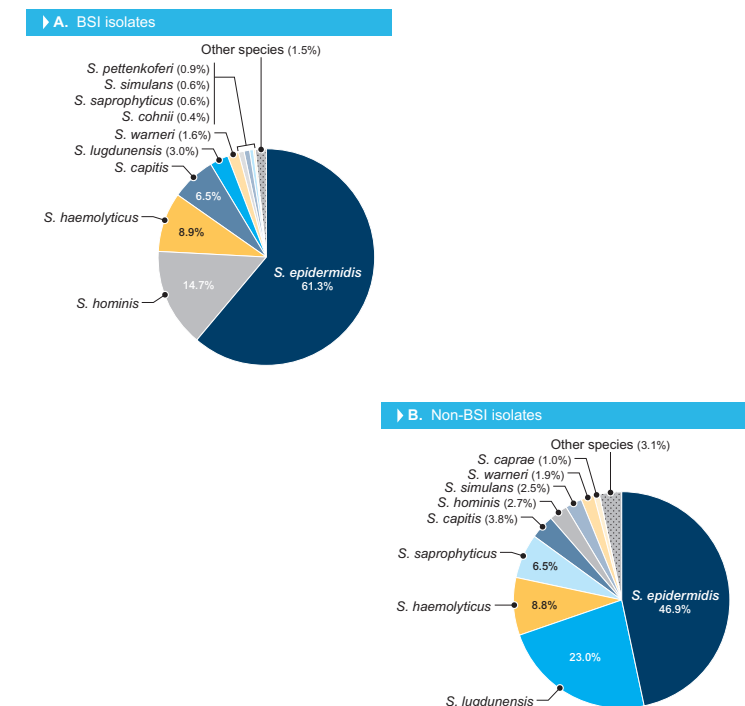


Table 3. Activity of dalbavancin and comparator antimicrobial agents tested against 5,088 coagulase-negative staphylococci isolates (2014-2019)

Antimicrobial agent	MIC in mg/L		CLSI <sup>a</sup>		EUCAST <sup>a</sup>	
	MIC <sub>50</sub>	MIC <sub>90</sub>	%S	%R	%S	%R
<b>BSI isolates (2,721)</b>						
Dalbavancin	0.03	0.06	>99.9 <sup>b</sup>		99.1	0.9
Daptomycin	0.25	0.5	99.9		99.9	0.1
Vancomycin	1	2	100.0	0.0	100.0	0.0
Teicoplanin	≤2	4	98.3	0.1	90.1	9.9
Linezolid	0.5	1	97.8	2.2	97.8	2.2
Oxacillin	>2	>2	32.3	67.7	32.9	67.1
Clindamycin	≤0.25	>2	69.4	28.7	68.2	30.6
Erythromycin	>8	>8	35.6	61.5	36.2	62.7
Levofloxacin	1	>4	47.3	49.7	c	52.7
Tetracycline	≤0.5	>8	85.0	13.3	77.1	16.2
TMP-SMX <sup>d</sup>	≤0.5	>4	64.3	35.7	64.3	16.4
<b>Non-BSI isolates (2,367)</b>						
Dalbavancin	0.03	0.06	>99.9 <sup>b</sup>		99.1	0.9
Daptomycin	0.25	0.5	100.0		100.0	0.0
Vancomycin	1	2	>99.9	0.0	>99.9	<0.1
Teicoplanin	≤2	4	98.9	0.3	93.7	6.3
Linezolid	0.5	1	99.7	0.3	99.7	0.3
Oxacillin	1	>2	47.4	52.6	53.2	46.8
Clindamycin	≤0.25	>2	77.7	20.9	76.0	22.3
Erythromycin	4	>8	48.5	49.4	48.7	50.7
Levofloxacin	0.25	>4	67.9	30.1	c	32.1
Tetracycline	≤0.5	>8	87.9	10.8	82.5	13.2
TMP-SMX <sup>d</sup>	≤0.5	>4	76.9	23.1	76.9	12.5

<sup>a</sup> CLSI (2020) and EUCAST (2020) published criteria.  
<sup>b</sup> Percentage inhibited at *S. aureus* breakpoint of ≤0.25 mg/L.  
<sup>c</sup> An arbitrary susceptible breakpoint of ≤0.001 mg/L has been published by EUCAST indicating that susceptible should not be reported for this organism-agent combination and intermediate should be interpreted as susceptible increased exposure (EUCAST 2020).  
<sup>d</sup> TMP-SMX, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole.

Table 1. MIC distribution of dalbavancin tested against coagulase-negative staphylococci (CoNS) from the United States and Europe (2014-2018)

Organism (no. tested)	No. of isolates and cumulative % inhibited at dalbavancin MIC (mg/L) of:										MIC (mg/L)		
	≤0.002	0.004	0.008	0.015	0.03	0.06	0.12	0.25	>0.25	50%	90%		
<i>S. epidermidis</i> (2,777)	0	9	43	534	1529	555	92	14	1	0.03	0.06		
	0.0%	0.3%	1.9%	21.1%	76.2%	96.1%	99.5%	>99.9%	100.0%				
<i>S. lugdunensis</i> (625)	1	0	7	210	379	27	1			0.03	0.03		
	0.2%	0.2%	1.3%	34.9%	95.5%	99.8%	100.0%						
<i>S. haemolyticus</i> (449)	0	2	17	60	197	154	19			0.06	0.12		
	0.0%	0.4%	4.2%	17.6%	61.5%	95.8%	100.0%						
<i>S. hominis</i> (462)	0	1	7	146	246	54	8			0.03	0.06		
	0.0%	0.2%	1.7%	33.3%	86.6%	98.3%	100.0%						
<i>S. capitis</i> (267)	1	10	65	106	68	15	1	1		0.015	0.03		
	0.4%	4.1%	28.5%	68.2%	93.6%	99.3%	99.6%	100.0%					
<i>S. saprophyticus</i> (169)	0	2	16	67	77	7				0.06	0.12		
	0.0%	1.2%	10.7%	50.3%	95.9%	100.0%							
<i>S. warneri</i> (88)	0	1	5	25	31	18	6	1	1	0.03	0.06		
	0.0%	1.1%	6.8%	35.2%	70.5%	90.9%	97.7%	98.9%	100.0%				
<i>S. simulans</i> (76)	0	6	37	30	3					0.015	0.03		
	0.0%	7.9%	56.6%	96.1%	100.0%								
Other species (175)	0	4	21	46	64	30	8	2		0.03	0.06		
	0.0%	2.3%	14.3%	40.6%	77.1%	94.3%	98.9%	100.0%					
All CoNS (5,088)	2	25	156	1123	2423	966	347	44	2	0.03	0.06		
	<0.1%	0.5%	3.7%	25.7%	73.3%	92.3%	99.1%	>99.9%	100.0%				
BSI isolates (2,721)	2	14	84	620	1312	506	159	23	1	0.03	0.06		
	0.1%	0.6%	3.7%	26.5%	74.7%	93.3%	99.1%	>99.9%	100.0%				
Non-BSI isolates (2,367)	11	72	503	1111	460	188	21	1		0.03	0.06		
	0.5%	3.5%	24.8%	71.7%	91.1%	99.1%	>99.9%	100.0%					
US (2,707)	1	14	80	647	1358	457	129	21		0.03	0.06		
	<0.1%	0.6%	3.5%	27.4%	77.6%	94.5%	99.2%	100.0%					
Europe (2,381)	1	11	76	476	1065	509	218	23	2	0.03	0.12		
	<0.1%	0.5%	3.7%	23.7%	68.4%	89.8%	99.0%	100.0%					

Abbreviations: CoNS, coagulase-negative staphylococci; BSI, bloodstream infection; US, United States.

Table 2. Susceptibility rates for dalbavancin and comparators against coagulase-negative staphylococci (CoNS) stratified by species and geographic region

Species (no. tested)	% Susceptible <sup>a</sup>								
	Dalba <sup>b</sup>	Vanco	Teico	Dapto	Linez	Clinda	Levo	TMP-SMX	Oxa
<i>S. epidermidis</i> (2,777)	>99.9	>99.9	99.0	>99.9	97.7	62.5	42.7	60.5	26.3
<i>S. lugdunensis</i> (625)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	92.5	98.9	99.5	95.4
<i>S. hominis</i> (462)	100.0	100.0	97.4	100.0	99.6	84.6	69.3	67.1	49.6
<i>S. haemolyticus</i> (449)	100.0	100.0	95.3	100.0	99.8	79.3	25.2	46.8	16.0
<i>S. capitis</i> (267)	100.0	100.0	97.4	100.0	100.0	87.3	74.5	98.5	67.0
<i>S. saprophyticus</i> (169)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	84.6	99.4	98.2	3.0
<i>S. warneri</i> (88)	100.0	100.0	94.3	100.0	100.0	92.0	95.5	98.9	58.0
<i>S. simulans</i> (76)	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	85.3	76.3	98.7	61.8
Other species (175)	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.9	99.4	82.9	84.6	90.3	53.7
All CoNS (5,088)	>99.9	>99.9	98.6	99.9	98.7	73.3	56.9	70.2	39.3
US (2,707)	100.0	>99.9	98.6	>99.9	98.6	70.2	61.2	71.7	42.9
Europe (2,381)	>99.9	100.0	98.5	99.9	98.8	76.7	52.0	68.4	35.4

<sup>a</sup> Per CLSI criteria.  
<sup>b</sup> Percentage inhibited at *S. aureus* breakpoint of ≤0.25 mg/L.  
<sup>c</sup> Abbreviations: Dalba, dalbavancin; Vanco, vancomycin; Teico, teicoplanin; Linez, linezolid; Clinda, clindamycin; TMP-SMX, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole; Oxa, oxacillin; US, United States.