



# Administration of beta-lactams by continuous infusion: when, how, and for which molecules ?

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# Optimization of antibiotic usage ...

## Questions ...

- Did we use the antibiotics on a **rational** basis ?
- What do we need to do to reduce the **risk of resistance** ?
- Can we control **costs** ?

# Optimization of antibiotic usage ...

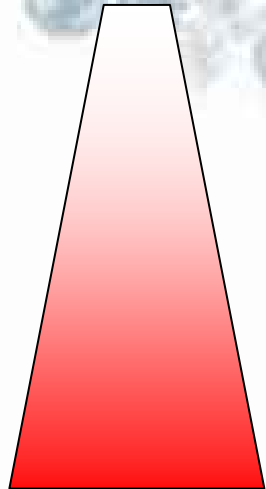


I'll try to show you the way...



# How can you improve ?

- through **increased efficacy**
- pharmacodynamics (PK/PD) ...
- optimization of administration...
- local evaluations for cost containment



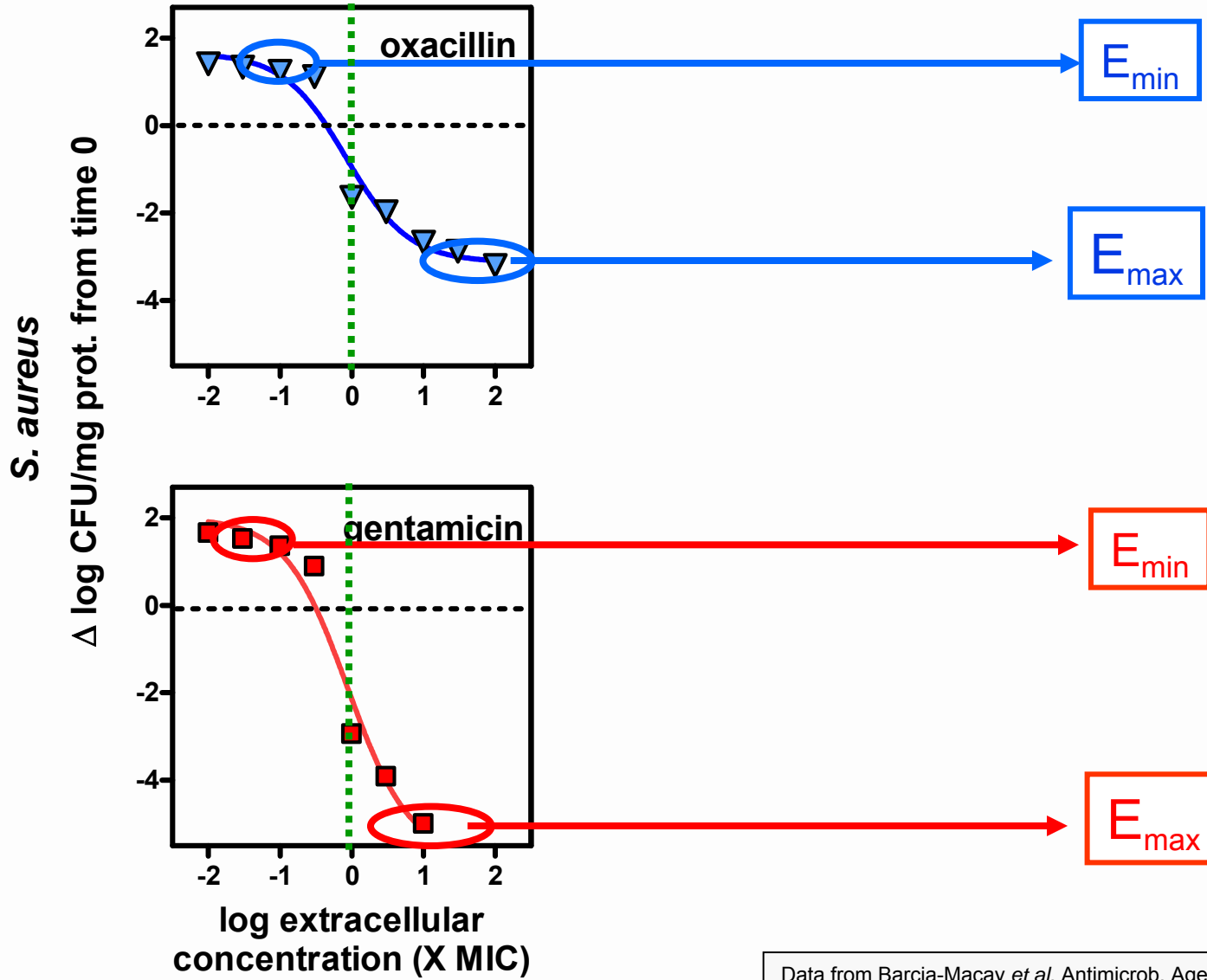
# In a nutshell...

- Every antibiotic is concentration-dependent  
(simple pharmacological principle) ...
- **BUT**, for  $\beta$ -lactams, activity is already optimal when the concentration exceeds the MIC by 3 to 4-fold, which is what easily happens with conventional administration... and bacteria with low MICs
- **AND**, having no post-antibiotic effect,  $\beta$ -lactams need to stay above the MIC (preferably 4-fold...) for the maximum time...



Medical controversies  
by H. Daumier (1808-1879)

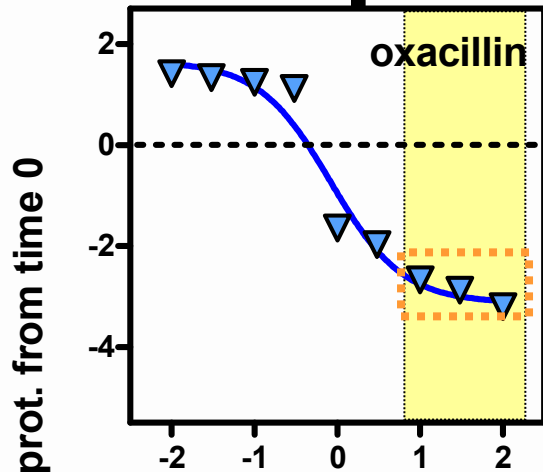
# What is the relationship between MIC and effect?



Data from Barcia-Macay *et al.* Antimicrob. Agents Chemother. (2006) 50:841-851

# But here comes pharmacokinetics ...

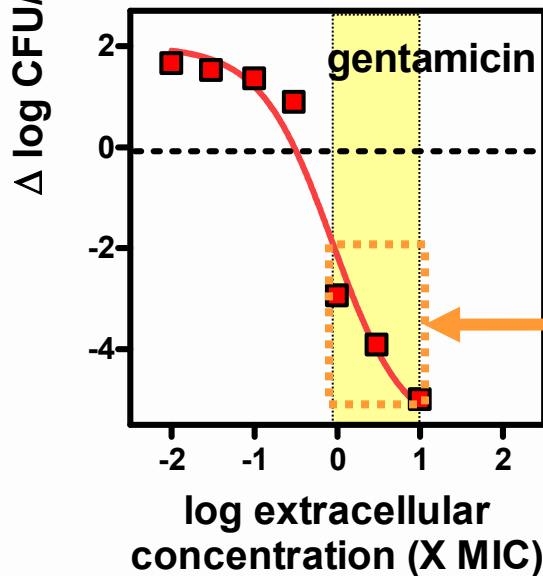
*S. aureus*



Weak concentration-dependence (max. effect) over the  $C_{\min}$ - $C_{\max}$  range

→ TIME will emerge as the main parameter in vivo

$C_{\min}$ - $C_{\max}$



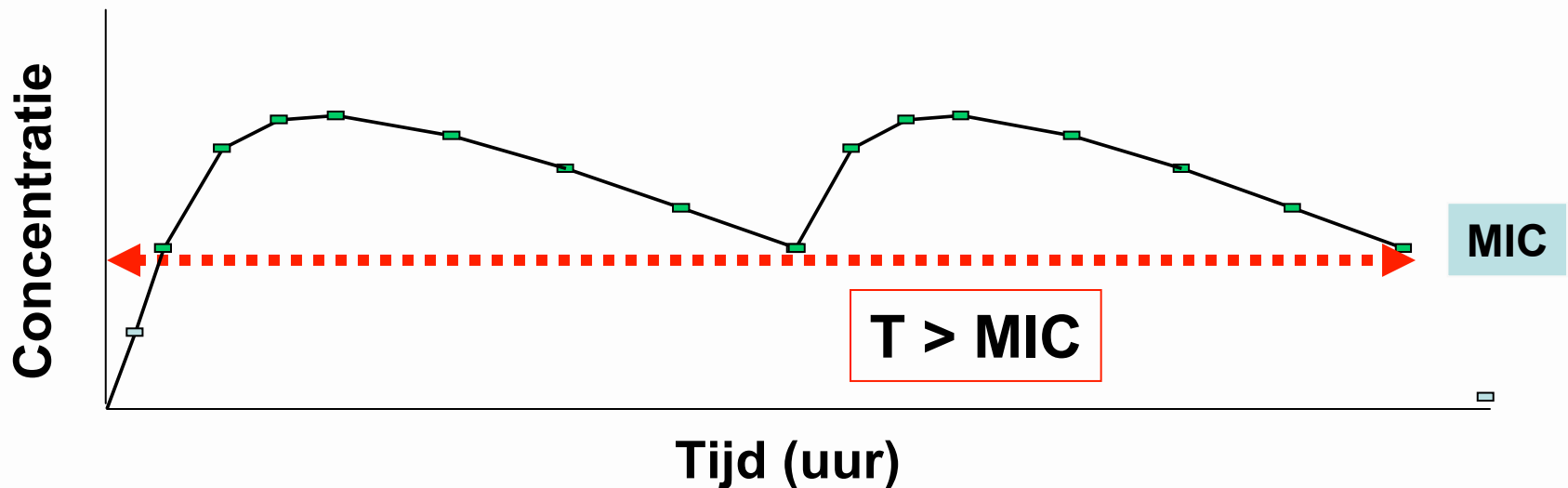
high concentration-dependence over the  $C_{\min}$ - $C_{\max}$  range → the time is less important than the actual concentration

- data from Barcia-Macay *et al.* Antimicrob. Agents Chemother. (2006) 50:841-851
- $C_{\min}$ - $C_{\max}$ : Principles and Practice of Infectious Diseases, 7th Ed. Mandell *et al.* eds., Elsevier



# As a result ...

- Time above MIC becomes the main efficacy-driving parameter ...
- $\beta$ -lactams prefer to be administered several times a day rather once-daily





# Before we move further .....



antibiotic

dose-  
response

influence  
of time

clinical  
consequences

**Yes**

- $\beta$ -lactams
- glycopeptides (\*)



**weak**

**critical**



- Exposure to the drug **is the important factor**
- Very high concentrations are unimportant

\*  $AUC_{24h}/MIC$  dependent but weak post-antibiotic effect

**No!**

- aminoglycosides
- fluoroquinolones (\*\*)



**important**

**limited**



- Concentrations **are important**
- The time of exposure is less important

\*\*  $C_{max}$  is also important to prevent emergence of resistance

# Continuous infusion ...



Infusion will push music to its limits

- Will push  $\beta$ -lactam efficacy to its maximum ...
- by staying above the MIC indefinitely...

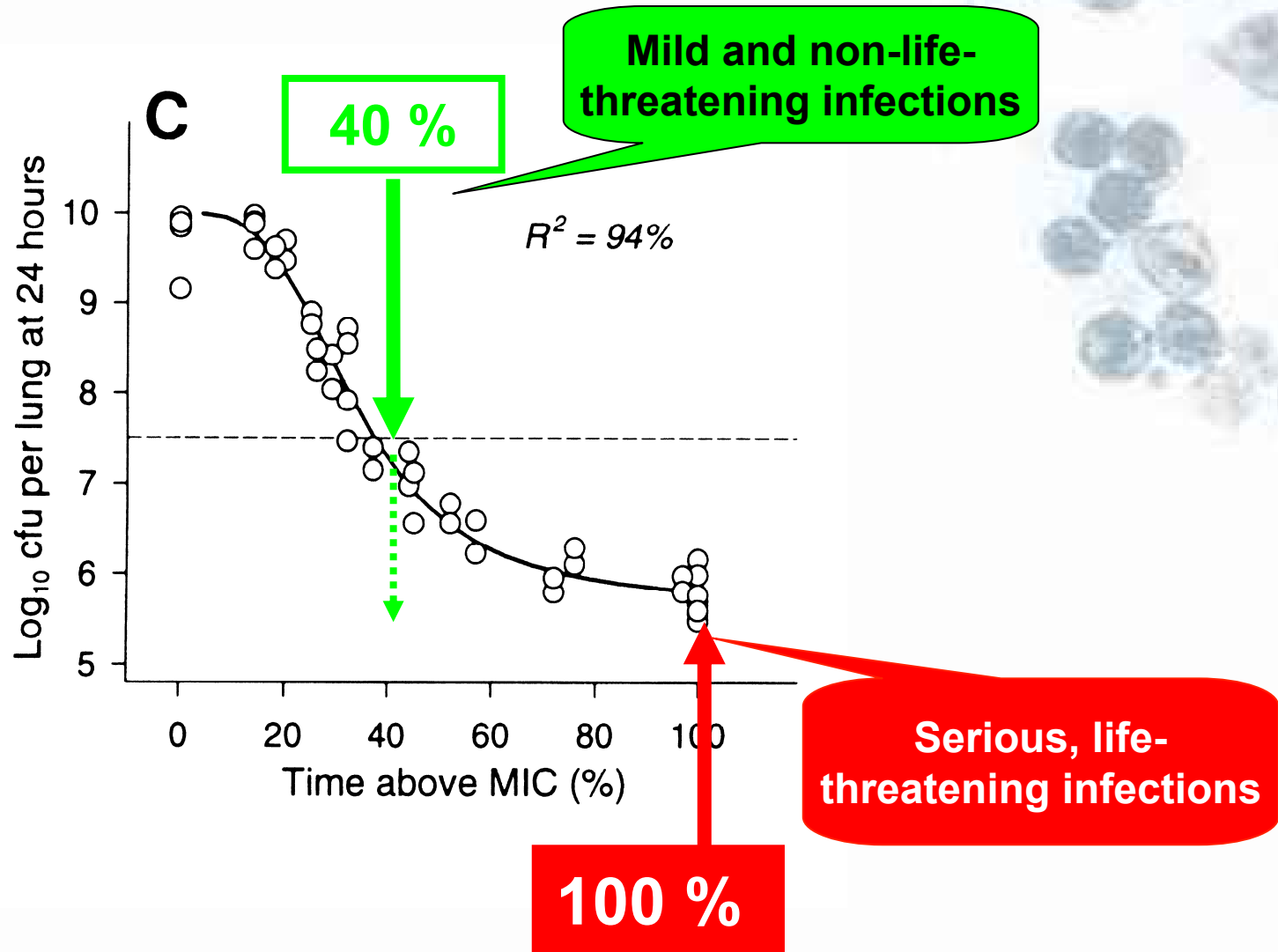
- **What do we need to do in terms of PK/PD ?**
- What is the clinical evidence ?
- What are the problems ?
- How you do this in practice ?
- Do you need to monitor blood levels ?

# Continuous infusion with $\beta$ -lactams: PK/PD aspects

- How long above the MIC ?
- How much above the MIC ?

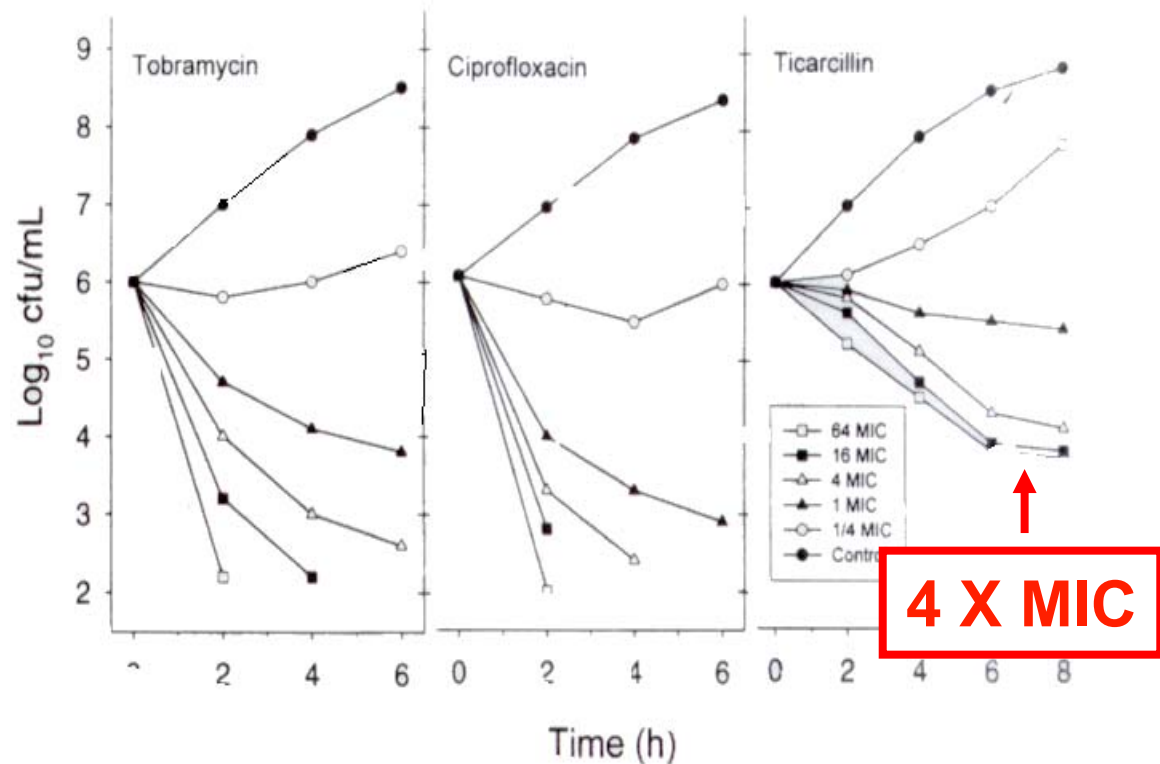


# How long above the MIC in discontinuous administration



Original data from W. Craig *et al.* with ticarcillin

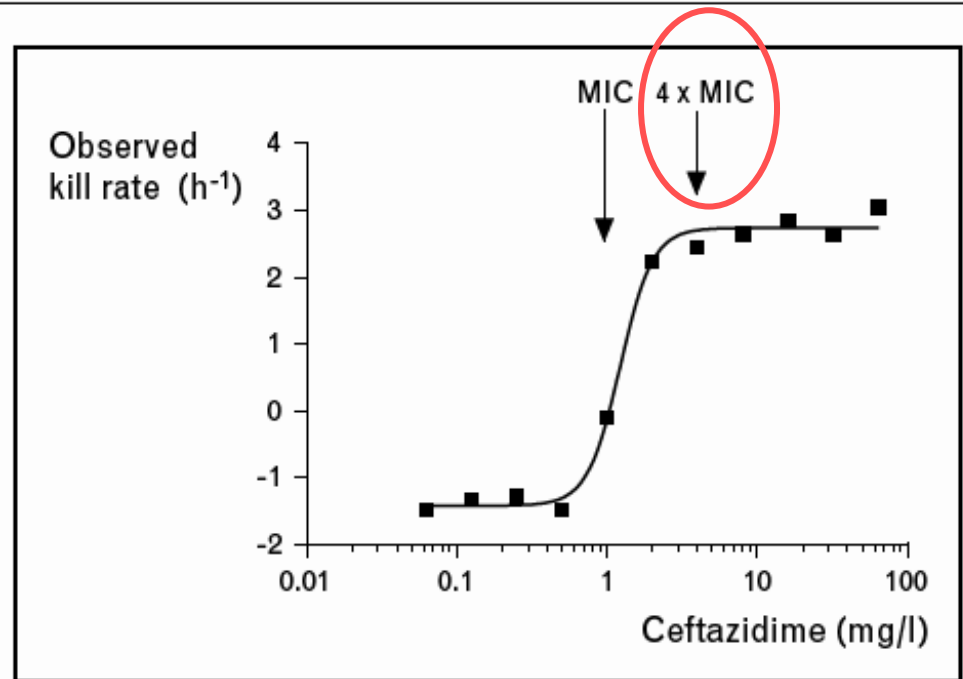
How much  
above MIC ?



**Figure 2.** Time-kill curves for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC (American Type Culture Collection) 27853 with exposure to tobramycin, ciprofloxacin, and ticarcillin at concentrations from one-fourth to 64 times the MIC. Reprinted with permission from *Scandinavian Journal of Infectious Diseases* [3].

More recent confirmation for ceftazidime

**Figure 2 Relationship between concentration of ceftazidime and kill rate**



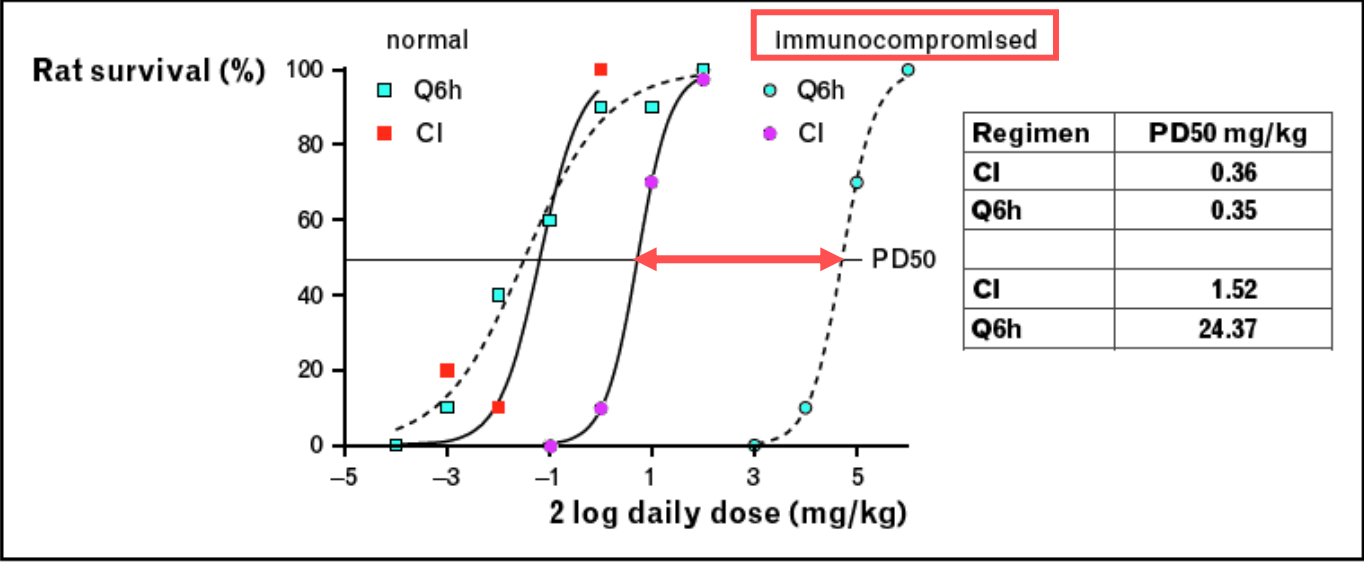
How much ?

The relationship follows a Hill-type model with a relatively steep curve; the difference between no effect (growth, here displayed as a negative kill rate) and maximum effect is within two to threefold dilutions. The maximum kill rate is attained at around four times the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC). Modified with permission from [16].

Mouton JW, Vinks AA. *Curr Opin Crit Care*. 2007 Oct;13(5):598-606.

# The importance of the concentration/MIC ratio is dependent upon the immune status (animal data)

Figure 3 Relationship between daily dose and mortality in a pulmonary infection models in rats



The daily dose needed to protect 50% of the animals from mortality (PD50) for two different dosing regimens in immunocompetent as well as immunodeficient animals is also displayed. Efficacy of continuous infusion (CI) is higher than intermittent infusion in immunodeficient animals. Q6h, every 6 h.

Mouton JW, Vinks AA. Curr Opin Crit Care. 2007 Oct;13(5):598-606.

# Second set of conclusions and discussions

- **$fT > MIC$**  is the driving parameter, but what is needed may vary between **40 to 100 %** depending upon the severity of the infection...
  - ➔ providing a 100 % coverage may be particularly useful in severe infections (ICU, ...) or  $\beta$ -lactams, activity if already optimal when the concentration exceeds the MIC by 3 to 4-fold, which is what easily happens with conventional administration... and bacteria with low MICs
- **4 x the MIC** provides optimal efficacy
  - ➔ This is what you may like to aim at in severe, difficult-to-treat infections, but lower values may be effective (not lower than 1 x the MIC, however...



OK !



May be...



Oh no !





# Continuous infusion ...



Infusion will push music to its limits

- Will push  $\beta$ -lactam efficacy to its maximum ...
- by staying above the MIC indefinitely...

- What do we need to do in terms of PK/PD ?
- **What is the clinical evidence ?**
- What are the problems ?
- How you do this in practice ?
- Do you need to monitor blood levels ?

# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams in clinical practice

The screenshot shows the PubMed search interface. At the top, the NCBI logo is on the left, and the PubMed logo with the URL 'www.pubmed.gov' is in the center. To the right, it says 'A service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine and the National Institutes of Health'. A 'My NCBI' box on the far right says 'Welcome ptulkens. [Sign Out]'. Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs for 'All Databases', 'PubMed', 'Nucleotide', 'Protein', 'Genome', 'Structure', 'OMIM', 'PMC', and 'Journals'. The search bar contains the text 'beta-lactam and continuous infusion' and has buttons for 'Go', 'Clear', and 'Save Search'. Below the search bar, a red box highlights the 'Limits' section, which includes a checked 'Limits' button, a 'Preview/Index' button, and a yellow-highlighted 'Limits: Clinical Trial' section. Below this, there are controls for 'Display' (set to 'Summary'), 'Show' (set to '20'), 'Sort By', and 'Send to'. It also shows 'All: 76' and 'Review: 0'. At the bottom of the red box, it says 'Items 1 - 20 of 76'. To the right of the red box, there are 'Page 1 of 4 Next' controls. The search results list two items:

- 1:** [Ikawa K, Morikawa N, Ikeda K, Suyama H.](#) Related Articles, Links  
Pharmacokinetic modeling and dosage adaptation of biapenem in Japanese patients during continuous venovenous hemodiafiltration.  
*J Infect Chemother.* 2008 Feb;14(1):35-9. Epub 2008 Feb 24.  
PMID: 18297447 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
- 2:** [De Jongh R, Hens R, Basma V, Mouton JW, Tulkens PM, Carryn S.](#) Related Articles, Links  
Continuous versus intermittent infusion of temocillin, a directed spectrum penicillin for intensive care patients with nosocomial pneumonia: stability, compatibility, population pharmacokinetic studies and breakpoint selection.  
*J Antimicrob Chemother.* 2008 Feb;61(2):382-8. Epub 2007 Dec 10.  
PMID: 18070831 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams in clinical practice: literature review \*

drug	no. of studies	main indications	main conclusions
<b>1. controlled studies with clinical end-point(s)</b>			
<b>piperacillin</b>	5 <sup>a</sup>	clAI / VAP / septicaemia / various infections	equivalence but superiority if $\uparrow$ MIC
<b>ceftazidime</b>	2 <sup>b</sup>	VAP / pneumonia/ melioidosis/ cystic fibrosis	superiority mainly with resistant isolates
<b>ceftriaxone</b>	1 <sup>c</sup>	sepsis	superiority
<b>meropenem</b>	1 <sup>d</sup>	VAP	superiority

\* Full papers in peer-reviewed Journals only with evaluable clinical end-point(s)

a Grant 2002; Buck 2005; Lau 2006; Rafati 2006; Lorente 2009

b Rappaz 2000; Angus 2000; Nicolau 2001; Lorente 2007; Hubert 2009

d Lorente 2006 (Note: meropenem is unstable and may, therefore, not be recommended for continuous infusion without specific precautions)

# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams in clinical practice: literature review \*

drug	no. of studies	main indications	main conclusions
<b>2. non-controlled studies with clinical end-point(s)</b>			
<b>penicillin G</b>	1 <sup>a</sup>	serious infections	favorable
<b>oxacillin</b>	1 <sup>b</sup>	burn wound cell.	faster cure
<b>ampicillin</b>	2 <sup>c</sup>	septicemia (infants)	equivalence or superiority (practical)
<b>ceftazidime</b>	3 <sup>d</sup>	neutropenic fever and infections	favorable (2) unfavorable (1)

\* Full papers in peer-reviewed Journals only with evaluable clinical end-point(s)

<sup>a</sup> Walton 2007

<sup>b</sup> Schuster 2009

<sup>c</sup> Colding 1982; Colding 1982

<sup>d</sup> Daenen 1995; Vinks 1997; Marshall 2000

# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams in clinical practice: literature review \*

drug	no. of studies	type of patients	main conclusions
<b>3. PK/PD studies in humans (no clinical end-point)</b>			
ampicillin	1 <sup>a</sup>	colorectal surgery	equivalence
piperacillin	1 <sup>b</sup>	VAP.	favorable
temocillin	1 <sup>c</sup>	non <i>Ps.</i> Gram (-)	pharmacokinetic super.
ceftazidime	5 <sup>d</sup>	ICU, cIAI, neutropenia, VAP	pharmacokinet. super.
cefepime	4 <sup>e</sup>	nosocom. pneum. and severe Gram(-) infect.	equivalence or superiority (practical)
imipenem	1 <sup>f</sup>	surgery (various indic.)	equivalence
meropenem	3 <sup>g</sup>	neutropenic fever and infections	favorable (2) – unfavorable (1)

\* Full papers in peer-reviewed Journals only with evaluable clinical end-point(s)

<sup>a</sup> Martin 1998 -- <sup>b</sup> Boselli 2008 -- <sup>c</sup> De Jongh, 2008

<sup>d</sup> Lipman 1999; Buyck 2002; Dalle 2002; Cousson 2005; Mariat 2006

<sup>e</sup> Georges 1999; Jaruratanasirikul 2002; Boselli 2003; Roos 2006 (Note: cefepime solutions develop color upon storage and may not be suitable for human use)

<sup>f</sup> Sakka 2007; <sup>g</sup> Thalhammer 1999; Langgartner 2008; Roberts 2009 (Note: both imipenem and meropenem are unstable and may, therefore, not be recommended for continuous infusion without special precautions)

# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams: an overview...

International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents 30 (2007) 11–18

Review

## Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics in severe infections: a review of its role

Jason A. Roberts<sup>a,b</sup>, Jennifer Paratz<sup>a,b</sup>, Elizabeth Paratz<sup>a</sup>,  
Wolfgang A. Krueger<sup>c</sup>, Jeffrey Lipman<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Burns Trauma and Critical Care Research Centre, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia*

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Received 16 January 2007; accepted 23 January 2007



# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams: an overview...

- The exact role of continuous infusion of  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics in the treatment of severe infections remains unclear...
- However, increasing evidence is emerging that suggests potential benefits
  - better attainment of pharmacodynamic targets for these drugs
  - More reliable pharmacokinetic parameters in seriously ill patients
  - when the MIC of the pathogen is  $\geq 4$  mg/L (empirical therapy where the susceptibility of the pathogen is unknown)
- Clinical data supporting continuous administration are less convincing, but
  - Some studies have shown improved clinical outcomes from continuous infusion
  - none have shown adverse outcomes.
  - clinical and bacteriological advantage are visible in seriously ill patients requiring at least 4 days of antibiotic therapy.
- **Seriously ill patients with severe infections requiring significant antibiotic courses ( $\geq 4$  days) may be the subgroup that will achieve better outcomes with continuous infusion.**

Roberts et al., Intern. J. Antimicrob. Agents 30 (2007):11-18

# Continuous infusion ...



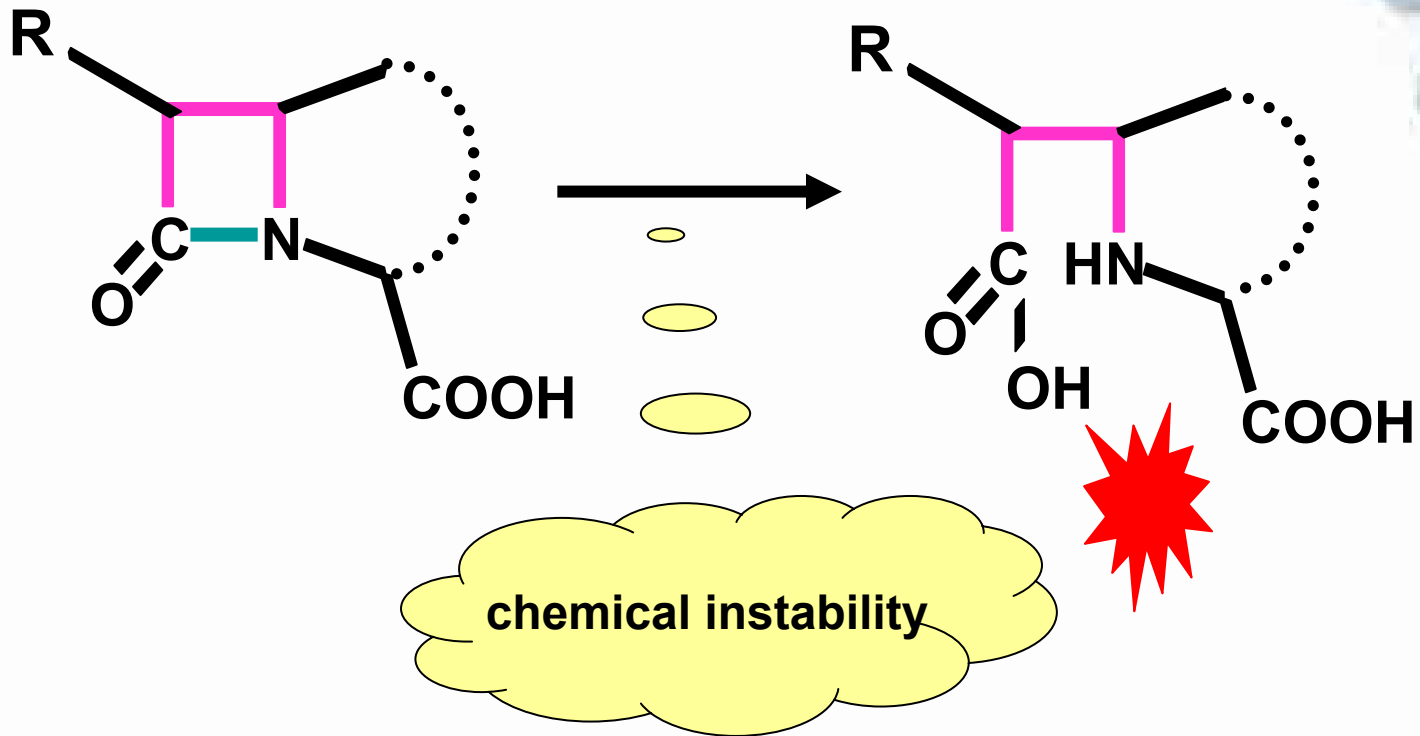
Infusion will push music to its limits

- Will push  $\beta$ -lactam efficacy to its maximum ...
- by staying above the MIC indefinitely...

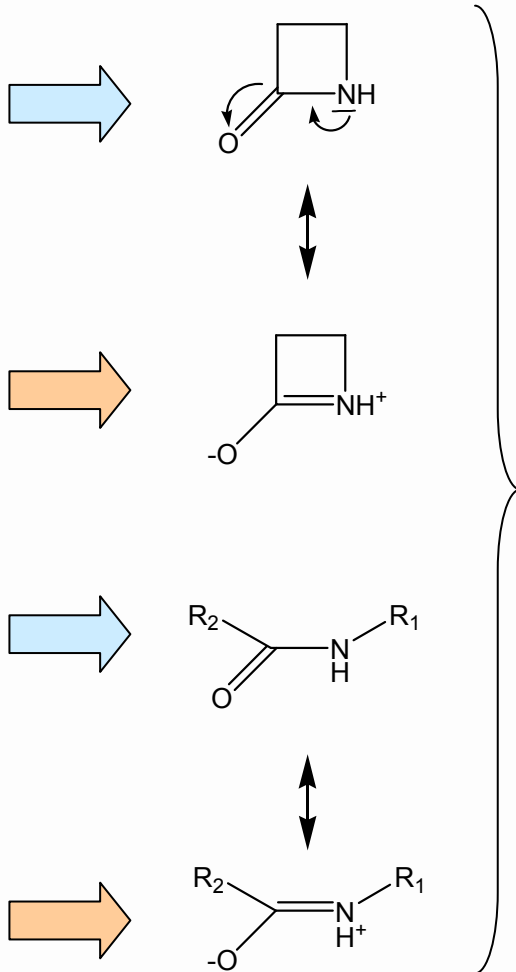
- But what do we need to do in terms of PK/PD ?
- What is the clinical evidence ?
- **What are the problems ?**
- How you do this in practice ?
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# Problem no. 1: $\beta$ -lactams are unstable molecules



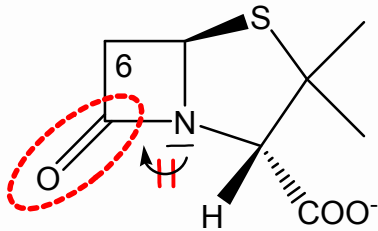
# Why are $\beta$ -lactams antibiotics **chemically** unstable ?



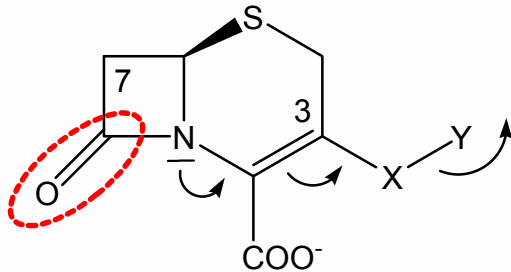
a  $\beta$ -lactam *per se* and without substituents is not necessarily unstable because it exists under **resonant forms** similar to what takes place for amides (which are very stable...)



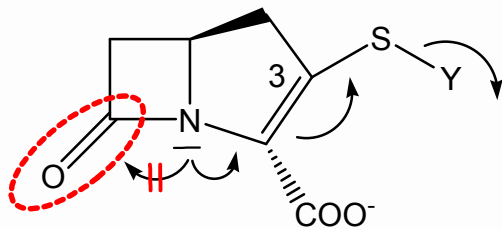
The problem is the substitutions...necessary for activity \*



**penams:** the fused 5-membered S-containing cycle prevents electron migration within the  $\beta$ -lactam ring, making the C=O a true ketone \*



**cephems:** the 6-membered S-containing ring cannot to block electron migration, but its C3 side chain attracts electrons from the N atom, resulting also in the C=O becoming a true ketone \*

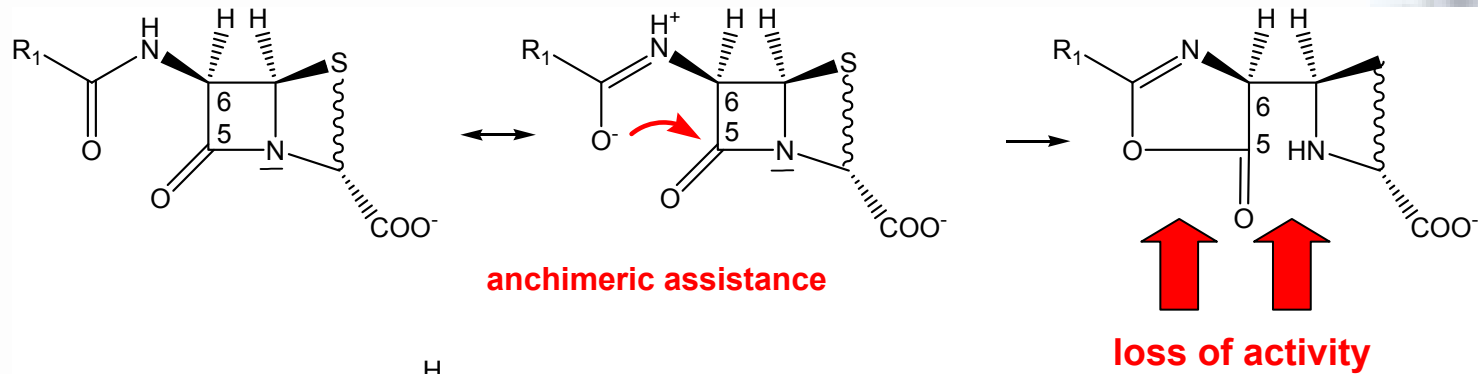


**penems:** combine the two above mechanisms, making the molecule very unstable

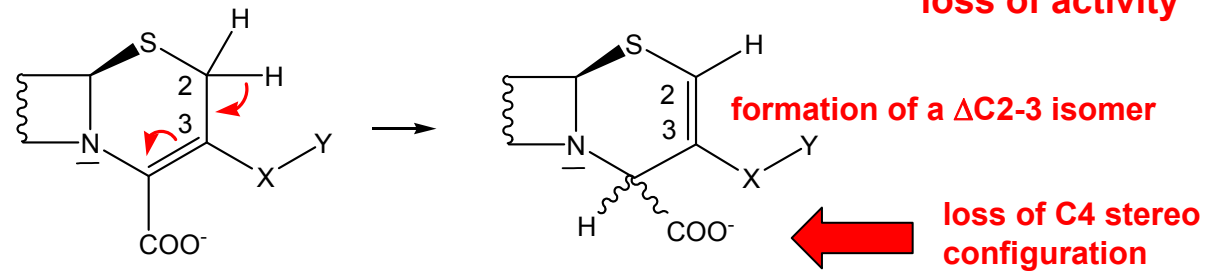
\* essential for binding to the active serine in PBPs... and, therefore for activity

# Mechanisms of chemical instability

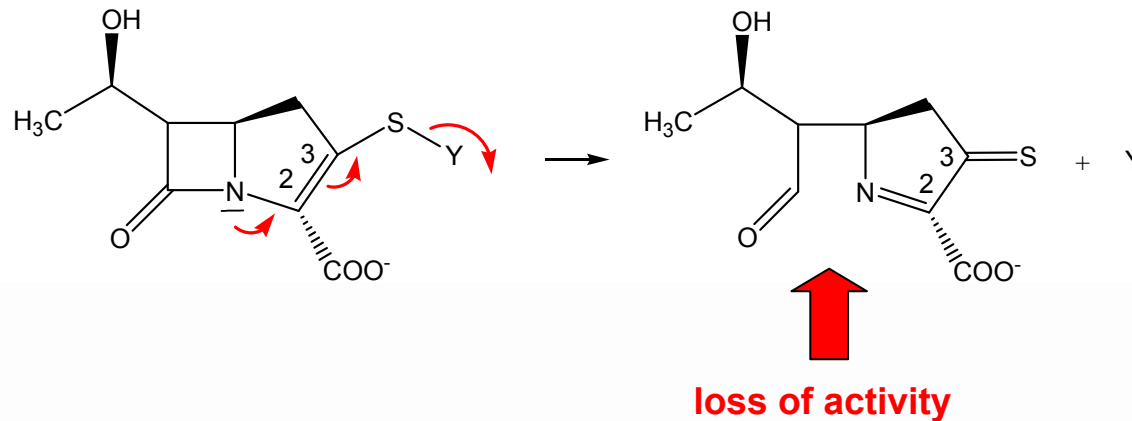
penams  
and  
cephems



additional  
mechanism for  
cephems



penems



# Can instability be modulated ?

- **yes** for penams and cepheids, through
  - bulkiness and orientation of the C6/C7 substituent  
    ↘ in anchimeric assistance
  - presence of a C6 methoxy (temocillin)  
    ↘ in access of water
  - modulation of the C3 side-chain (cephems)  
    ↘ in electroattracting properties
- **difficult** for carbapenems (imipenem, meropenem...)
  - strong tension in the  $\beta$ -lactam ring induced by the fused 5-membered ring;
  - strong electroattracting properties of the C3 side chain



# β-lactam stability in a nutshell...

- Definition: > 90% intact product (Pharmacopeia)
- Conditions: mimicking the total daily dose (commercial product) in 48 mL (motor operated syringe) water without pH adjustment and maintained at a fixed temperature (\*)

• key: 37°C 25°C 4°C

molecule	time (h)			
	≤ 6 h	12 h	24 h	> 24 h
penicillin G				
ampicillin				
oxacillin				
piperacillin				
temocillin				
cefazolin				
cefotaxime				
ceftriaxone				
ceftazidime				
cefepime				
imipenem				
meropenem				

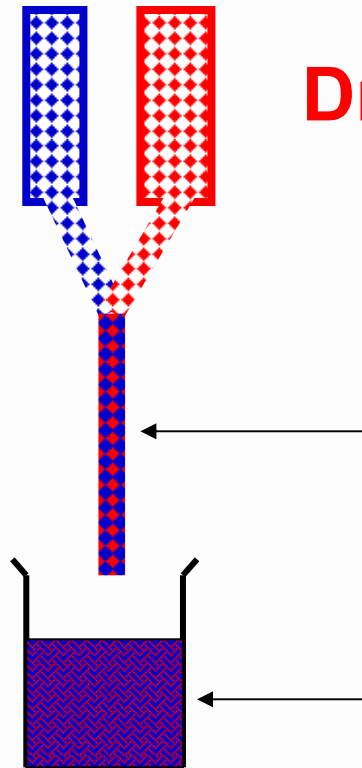
\* Servais & Tulkens, AAC 2001;45:2643-7 – Viaene et al. AAC 2002;46:2327-32 - Baririan et al. JAC 2003;51:651  
other references for individual drugs in in Berthoin et al. (in preparation).

## Problem no. 2:

$\beta$ -lactams may be incompatible with other drugs if administered through the same line

$\beta$ -lactam  
(typ. 8 g %)

Drug X



1<sup>st</sup> contact at high concentration (10 min)

2<sup>d</sup> contact at 37°C at low concentration (1h)



direct examination (with viewer),  
HPLC, bioassay

# Drug compatibility studies: example for ceftazidime

## Compatible:

- **antiinfectives**
  - **aminoglycosides, macrolides** (diluted solutions), **fluconazole**
- **sedatives / anticonvulsivants**
  - **ketamine, valproic acid, sufentanil, remifentanil, morphine**
- **antihypertensives / diuretics**
  - **urapidil, furosemide**
- **varia**
  - **aminoacid solutions (VAMIN)**
  - **insuline, methylprednisolone**
  - **isosorbide dinitrate**
  - **dopamine, adrenaline**

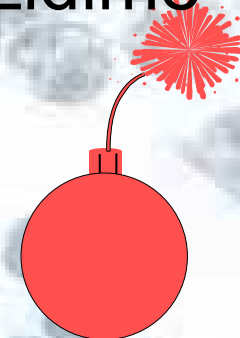
Servais & Tulkens, AAC, 2001 Sep; 45(9):2643-7.  
Baririan et al., JAC, 2003 Mar; 51:651-8.



# Drug compatibility studies: example with ceftazidime

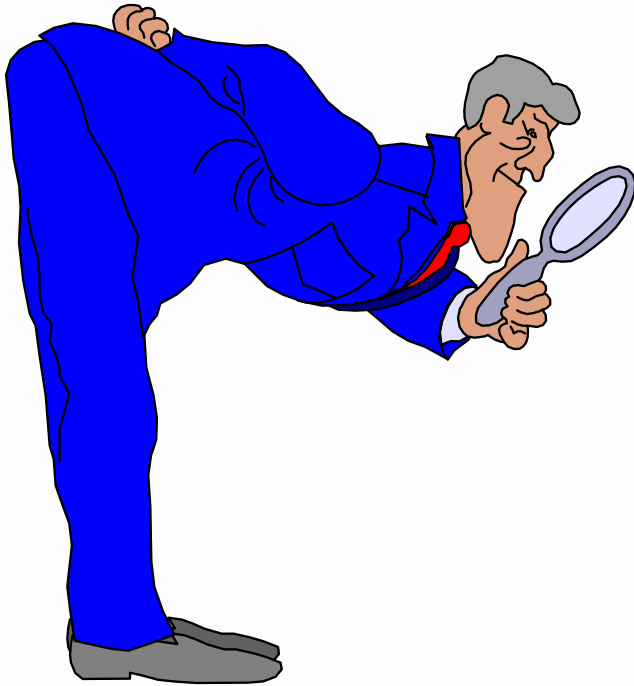
## Non-compatible

- **antibiotics**
  - **vancomycine** (precipitation); **macrolides** (if concentrated)
- **sedatives**
  - **propofol** (trapping in emulsion); **midazolam** (precipitation)
  - **piritramide** (precipitation), **phenytoïne** (precipitation)
- **antihypertensives**
  - **nicardipine** (precipitation)
- **varia**
  - **N-acetylcysteine** (chemical inactivation)
  - **dobutamine** (if concentrated)
  - **euphyllin** (chemical inactivation)



Servais & Tulkens, AAC, 2001 Sep; 45(9):2643-7.  
Baririan et al., JAC, 2003 Mar; 51:651-8.

# Is continuous infusion with $\beta$ -lactams and other drugs possible ?



Each molecule must  
be specifically  
looked at ...

\* Data published for **ceftazidime** (AAC 2001;45:2643-7), **cefepime** (JAC 2003; 51:651-8) and **temocillin** (JAC 2008;61:382-8); also available for **vancomycine** (send me an e-mail)

# Continuous infusion ...



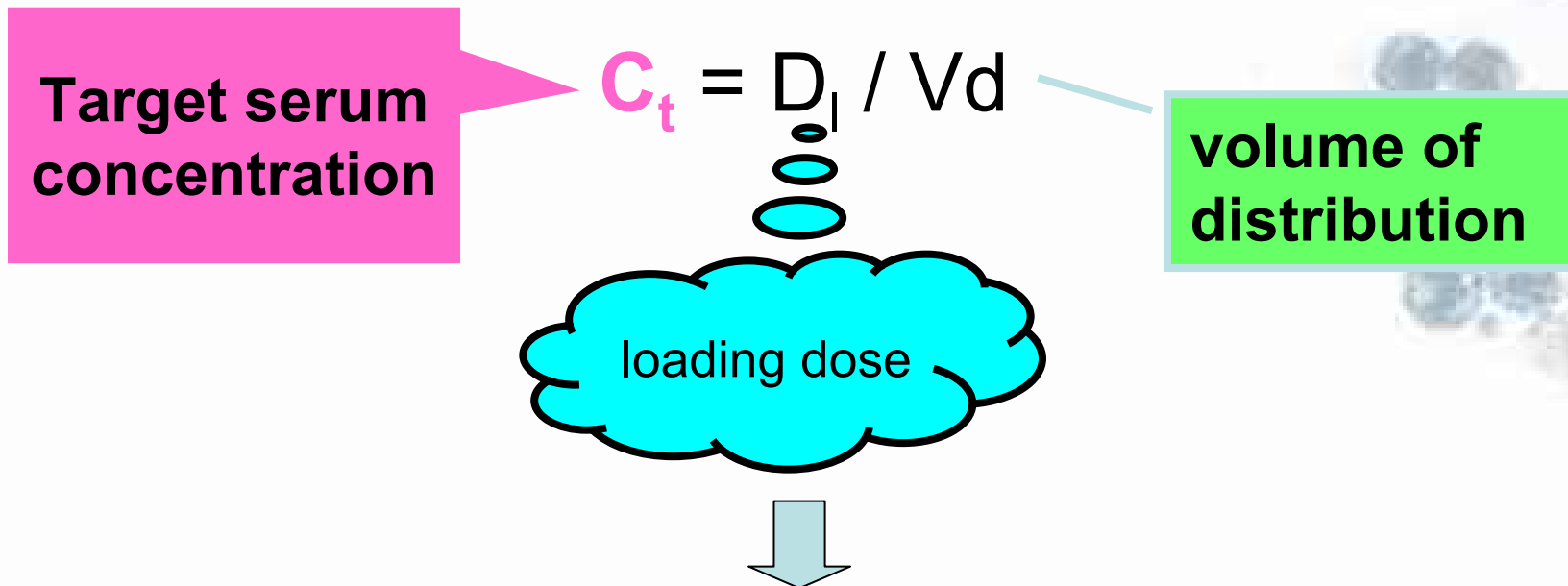
Infusion will push music to its limits

- Will push  $\beta$ -lactam efficacy to its maximum ...
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- **How you do this in practice ?**
- Do you need to monitor blood levels ?

# Continuous infusion in practice

## 1. loading dose: the correct scheme \*



$$\text{loading dose (in mg)} = C_t \text{ (mg/L)} \times V_d \text{ (L)}$$

the loading dose is only dependent upon the volume of distribution and is directly influenced by the weight of the patient and his/her medical situation

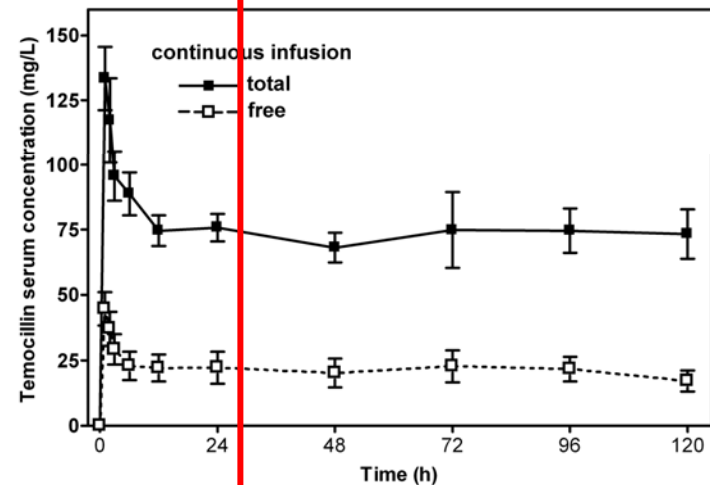
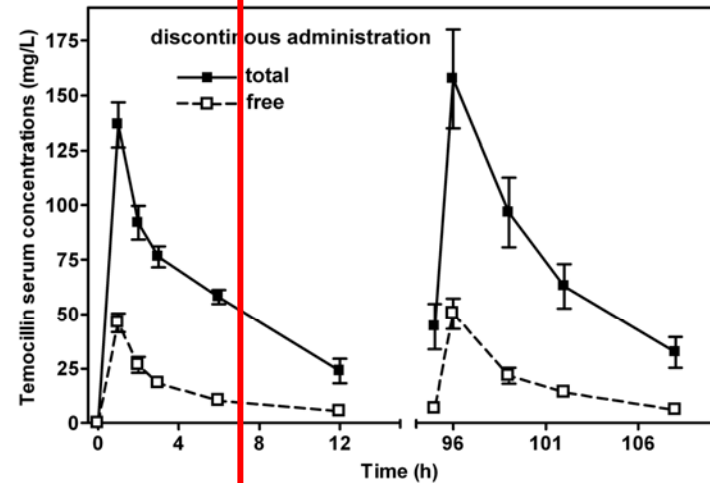
Typical volumes of distribution of a  $\beta$ -lactam are between 0.2 L/kg (volunteers) and 0.4-0.5 L/kg (Intensive Care and burned patients)

\* assuming linear pharmacokinetics (almost always the case for  $\beta$ -lactams)

# Continuous infusion in practice

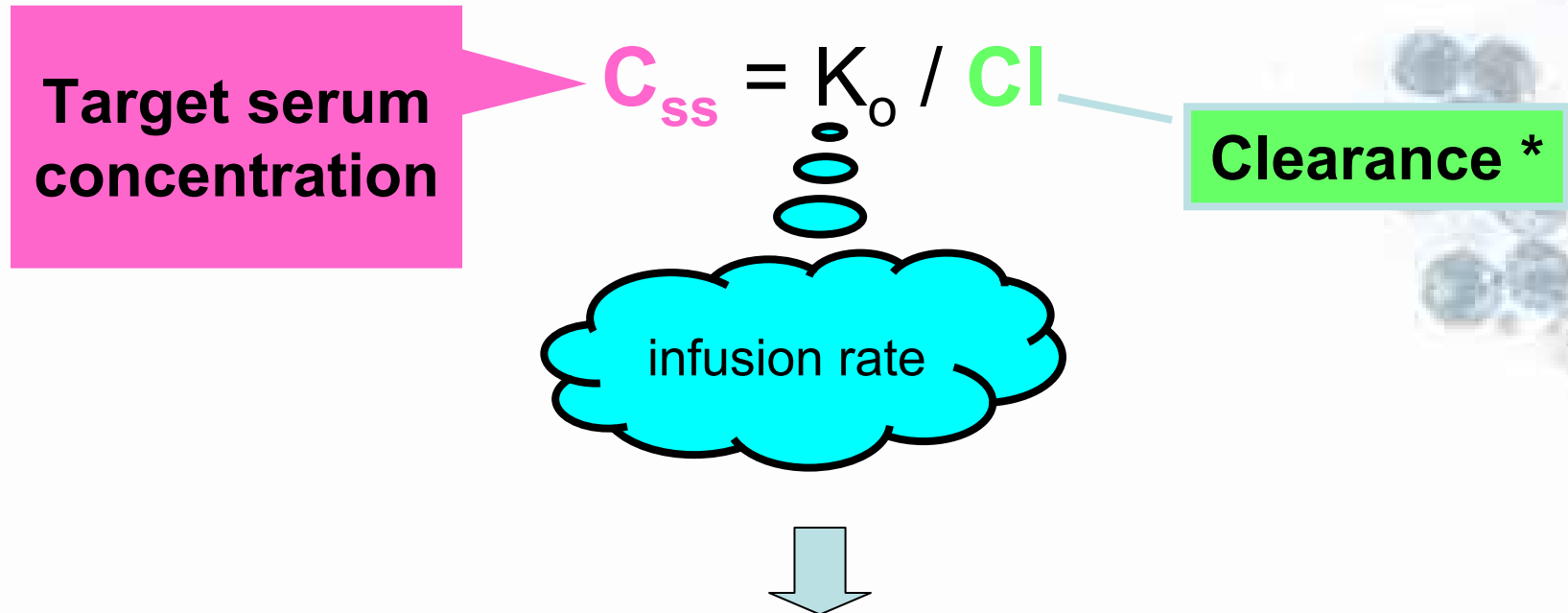
## 1. loading dose: a simplified scheme

- Because  $\beta$ -lactams have a low intrinsic toxicity, transient overshooting may not be a major problem...
- Conventional treatments (discontinuous) is by means of bolus or short infusions...
- Why not giving the loading dose as a single bolus or short infusion of a classical dose (1-2 g) ?



# Continuous infusion in practice

## 2: infusion \*



$$\text{daily dose (in mg)} = 24 \times \text{clearance (L/h)} \times C_{ss}$$

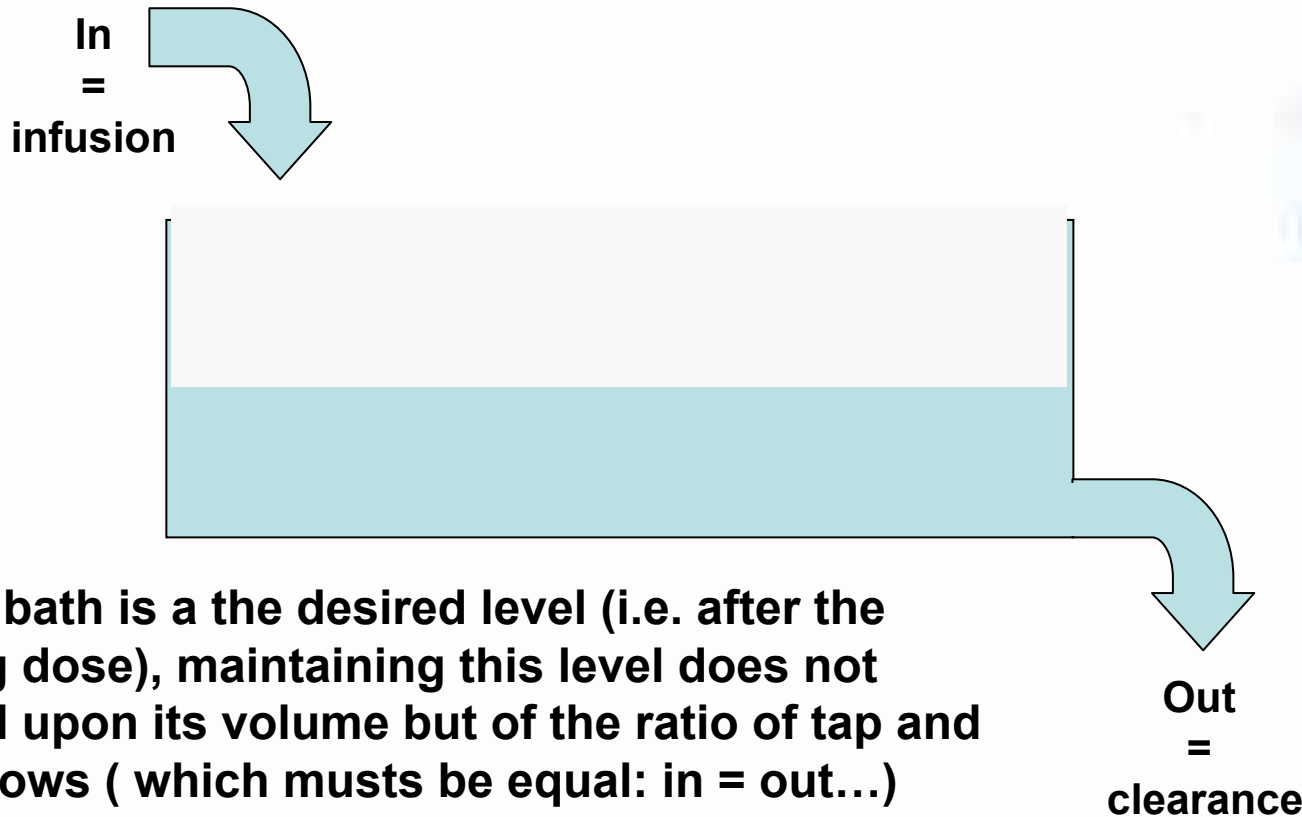
**\* during the infusion, the necessary dose (in 24h or per min) is only dependent upon the clearance and not the weight of the patient**

\* assuming linear pharmacokinetics (almost always the case for  $\beta$ -lactams)

# Continuous infusion in practice

## 2: infusion

In  
=  
infusion

A diagram of a rectangular tank. A light blue arrow points from the top left into the tank, labeled 'In = infusion'. The tank is partially filled with a light blue liquid. A light blue arrow points from the bottom right of the tank, labeled 'Out = clearance'. The background of the slide features a faint, artistic image of blue and white circular patterns on the right side.

once a bath is at the desired level (i.e. after the loading dose), maintaining this level does not depend upon its volume but of the ratio of tap and drain flows ( which must be equal: in = out...)

Out  
=  
clearance

**\* during the infusion, the necessary dose (in 24h or per min) is only dependent upon the clearance and not the weight of the patient**

# Continuous infusion of $\beta$ -lactams: a practical example...

*Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy* (2008) **61**, 382–388

doi:10.1093/jac/dkm467

Advance Access publication 10 December 2007

JAC

## Continuous versus intermittent infusion of temocillin, a directed spectrum penicillin for intensive care patients with nosocomial pneumonia: stability, compatibility, population pharmacokinetic studies and breakpoint selection

Raf De Jongh<sup>1</sup>, Ria Hens<sup>1</sup>, Violetta Basma<sup>2</sup>, Johan W. Mouton<sup>3</sup>, Paul M. Tulkens<sup>2\*</sup>  
and Stéphane Carryn<sup>2</sup>

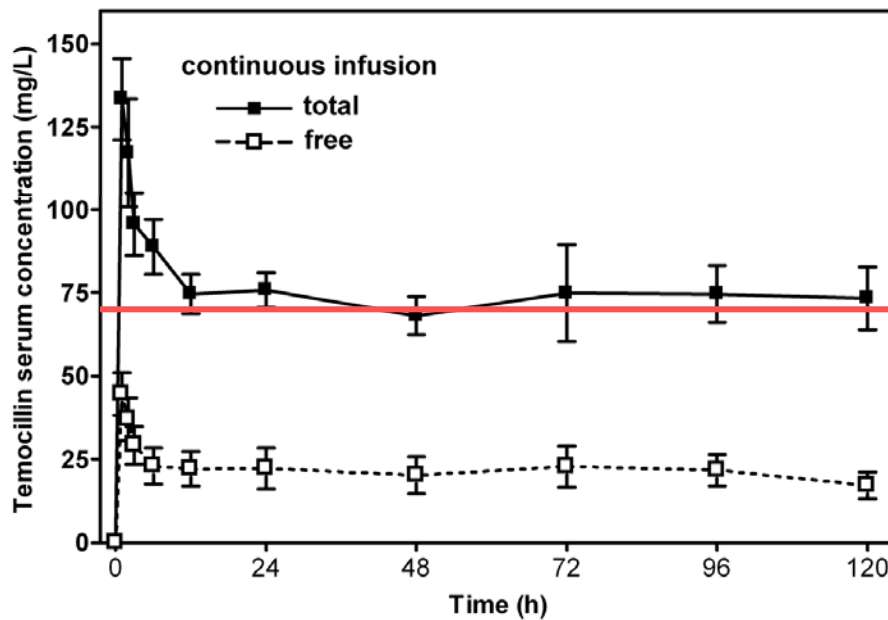
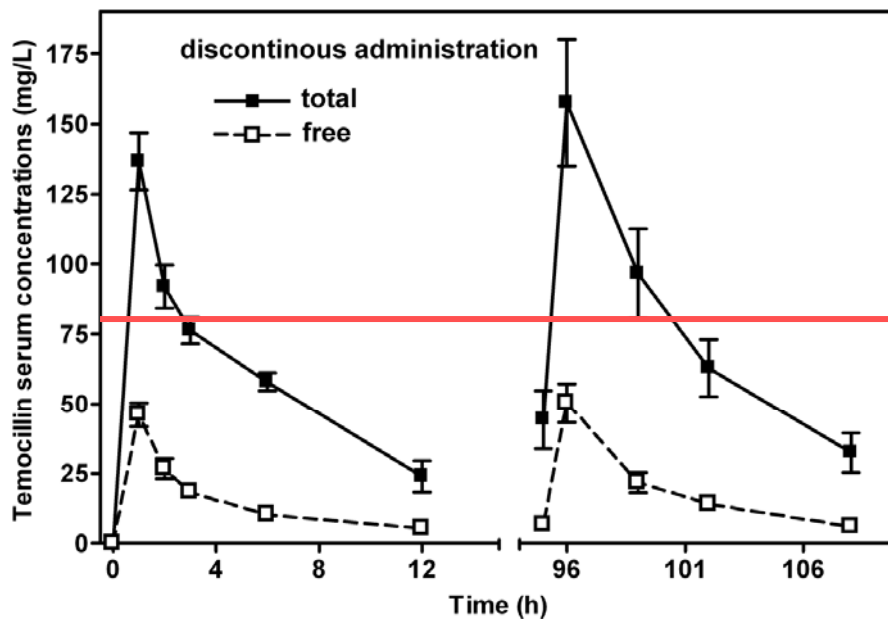
<sup>1</sup>Dienst Voor Intensieve Zorgen, Ziekenhuis Oost-Limburg, B-3600 Genk, Belgium; <sup>2</sup>Unité de Pharmacologie Cellulaire et Moléculaire, Université Catholique de Louvain, B-1200 Bruxelles, Belgium; <sup>3</sup>Afdeling Medische Microbiologie en Infectieziekten, Canisius Wilhelmina Ziekenhuis, NL-6500 GS Nijmegen, The Netherlands

- target level: 64 mg/L  
(max. MIC: 16 mg/L; Belgian bkpt = 16 mg/L])
- loading dose: 2g
- infusion: 4 g/day (2.778 mg/min; assumed clearance: 40 ml/min)  
[drug diluted in 48 ml of water; infusion through motor-operated syringe at a rate of 2 ml/h; temperature 25°C or lower].



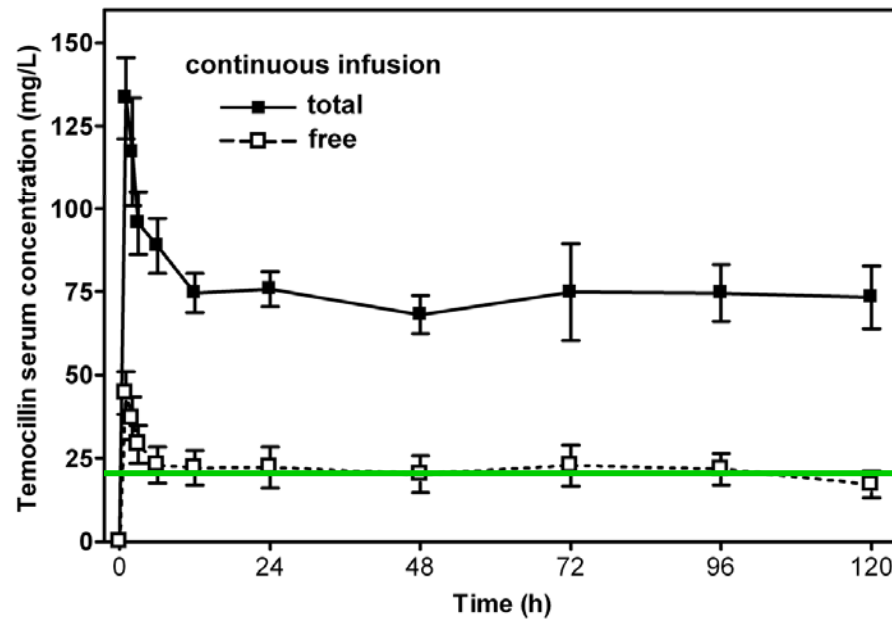
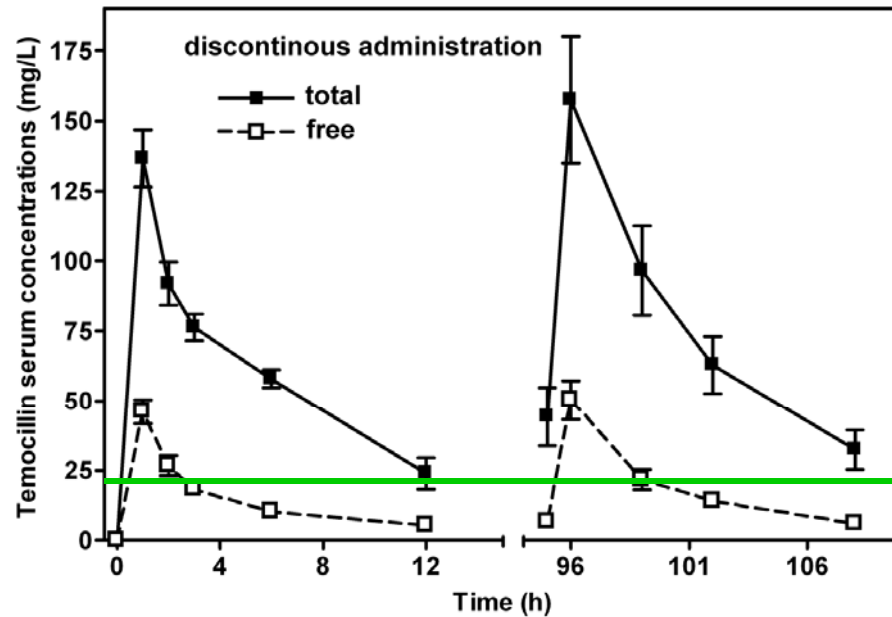
# Pharmacokinetics of temocillin 4 g/day: **total**

**Concentration  
at equilibrium (total):  
 $73 \pm 3$   
(40 - 142)**



# Pharmacokinetics of temocillin 4 g/day:

free



Concentration  
at equilibrium (free):  
 $23 \pm 2$   
(12 - 42)

J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2008 Feb;61(2):382-8

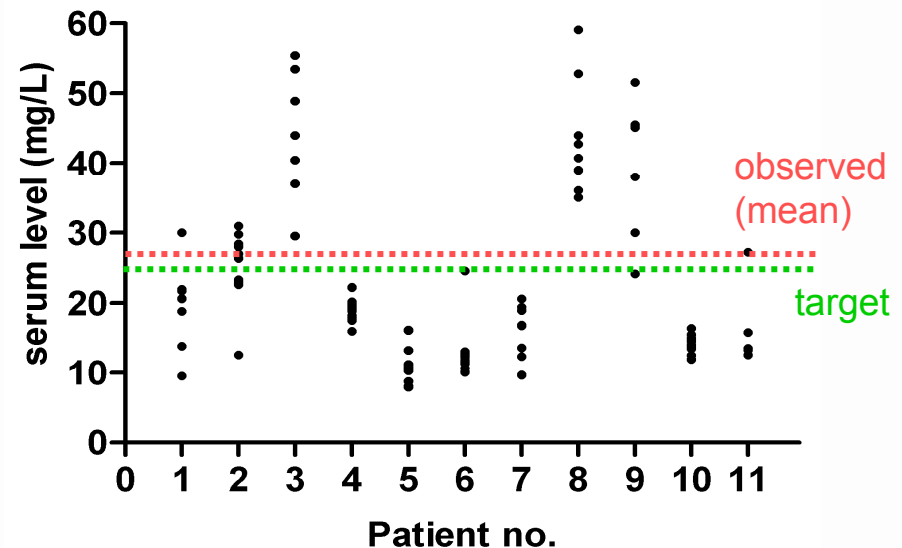
# Continu infusion of $\beta$ -lactams: a practical example



## Continuous Infusion of Ceftazidime (4 g/day) vs Conventional Schedule and dosis (3 X 2 g/day) for Treatment of Ventilator-associated Pneumonia in Intensive Care Units.

P.F. Laterre, N. Baririan, H. Spapen, T. Dugernier, M. Simon, D. Pierard, H. Servais, C. Seral and P.M. Tulkens  
Cliniques universitaires St-Luc & Université catholique de Louvain, Brussels; Akademische Ziekenhuis, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Brussels; Clinique St-Pierre, Ottignies; Clinique St Joseph, Arlon; Belgium.

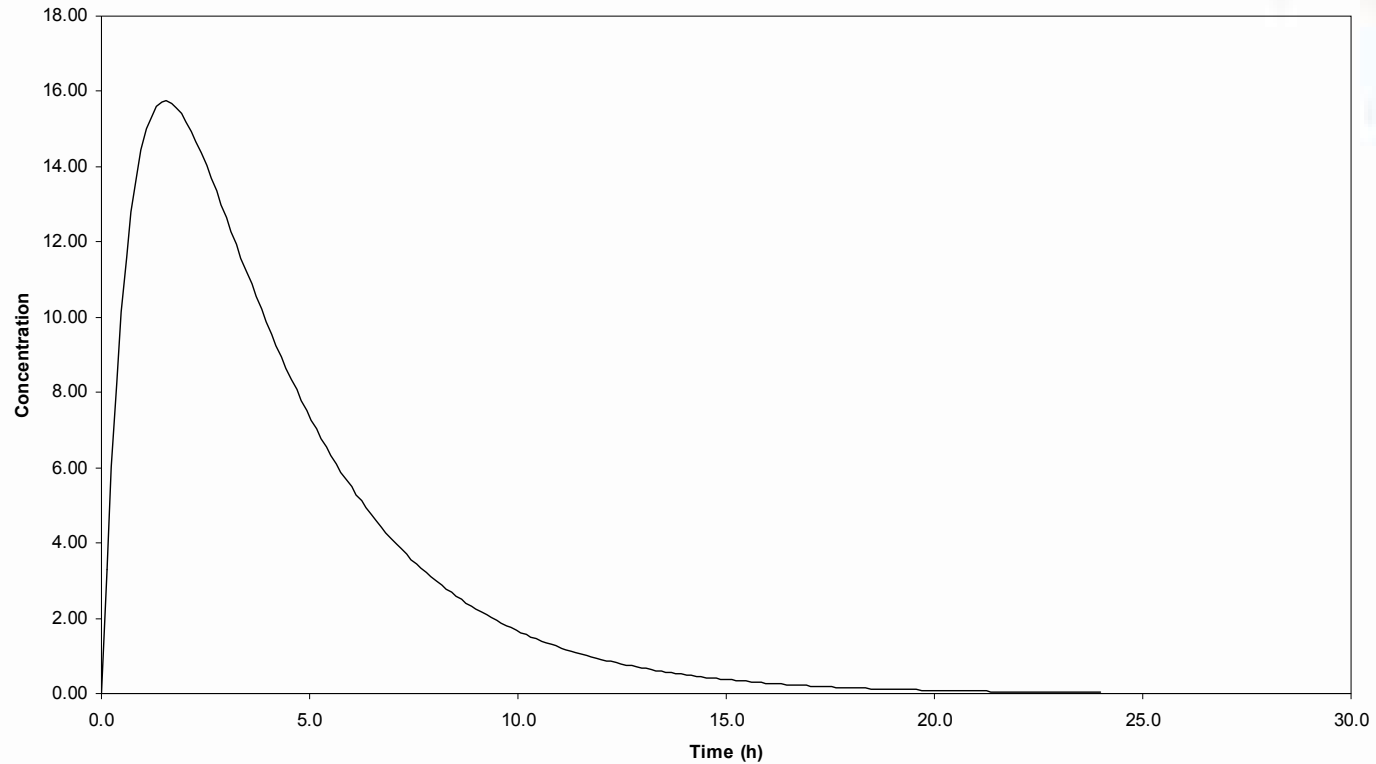
- target level: 24 mg/L  
(max. MIC: 6 mg/L [EUCAST bkpt = 8 mg/L])
- loading dose: 10.8 mg/kg  
(assumed Vd: 0.4 L/kg)
- infusion: 4 g/day
- assumed clearance: 102 ml/min (6.12 L/h)
- drug diluted in 48 ml of water
- infusion through motor-operated syringe at a rate of 2 ml/h;
- temperature 25°C or lower



• ICAAC 2002 Poster no. A1 1402

# Why are blood levels so variable ?

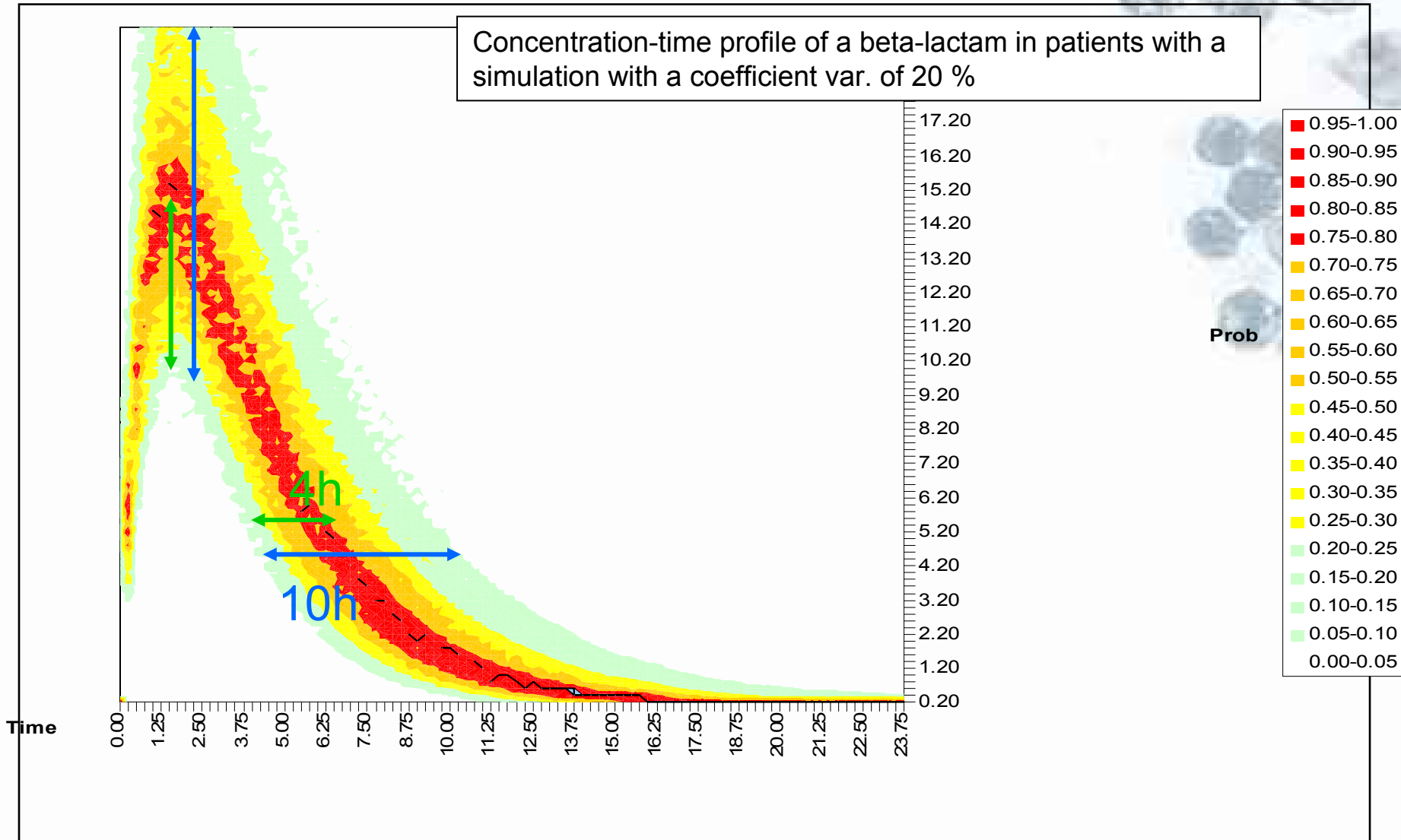
Concentration-time profile of a beta-lactam in volunteers  
 $V_d = 20 \text{ L}$ ,  $k_a = 1.2 \text{ h}^{-1}$ ,  $k_e = 0.3 \text{ h}^{-1}$



vanaf J. Mouton, ISAP workshop

# Why are blood levels so variable ?

Concentration-time profile of a beta-lactam in patients with a simulation with a coefficient var. of 20 %



vanaf J. Mouton, ISAP workshop

# Continuous infusion ...



Infusion will push music to its limits

- Will push  $\beta$ -lactam efficacy to its maximum ...
- by staying above the MIC indefinitely...

- What do we need to do in terms of PK/PD ?
- What is the clinical evidence ?
- What are the problems ?
- How you do this in practice ?
- **Do you need to monitor blood levels ?**

**Yes!**

# Pros / Cons of continuous infusion

(beta-lactams / vancomycine)

- A more rational way of administering beta-lactams (and also applicable to other antibiotics for which the impact of concentration [once above x-fold the MIC] is low )
- Can be easier to use in hospital setting
- "Monitoring made easy" and more reliable \*
- Can help containing costs \*

\* not addressed in this talk, but ask questions...

# Pros / **Cons** of continuous infusion

(beta-lactams / vancomycine)

- The stability of each beta-lactam **MUST** be critically assessed under the conditions of practical use...
- Compatibility issues may make things quite complex unless a dedicated line is used
- use of motor-operated pumps (or pumps with similar reliability) is probably essential \*
- High serum levels maintained for prolonged periods may be associated with toxicities (for vancomycine, levels > 28 mg/L have been associated with renal toxicity; for beta-lactams, levles > 80 mg/L have been associated with convulsions [cefepime]) \*

\* not addressed in this talk, but ask questions...



# Now, what about extended infusion ?

- **this is a 3-4 h infusion rather than a continuous infusion**
- **it started with carbapenems because those were too instable to be administred bycontinuous infusion for several hours**
- **it gained popularity whith meropenem (bit is still "off label" and with doripenem for which J&J asked for (and obtained registration in the EU) with 4 h infusion period...**



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Extending the infusion time of Doribax to 4 hours maximizes the %T>MIC for a given dose and is the basis for the option to administer 4-hour infusions in patients with nosocomial pneumonia including ventilator-associated pneumonia. In seriously ill patients or those with an impaired immune response, a 4-hour infusion time may be more suitable when the MIC of doripenem for the known or suspected pathogen(s) has been shown or is expected to be  $> 0.5$  mg/l, in order to reach a target attainment of 50% T>MIC in at least 95% of the patients (see section 4.2). Monte Carlo simulations supported the use of 500 mg 4-hour infusions every 8 hours in subjects with normal renal function for target pathogens with doripenem MICs  $\leq 4$  mg/l.

# What is the evidence of instability of carbapenems ?

- chemical considerations (see above)
- experimental studies

Vol. 46, 2002

STABILITY OF  $\beta$ -LACTAMS FOR CONTINUOUS INFUSION 2329

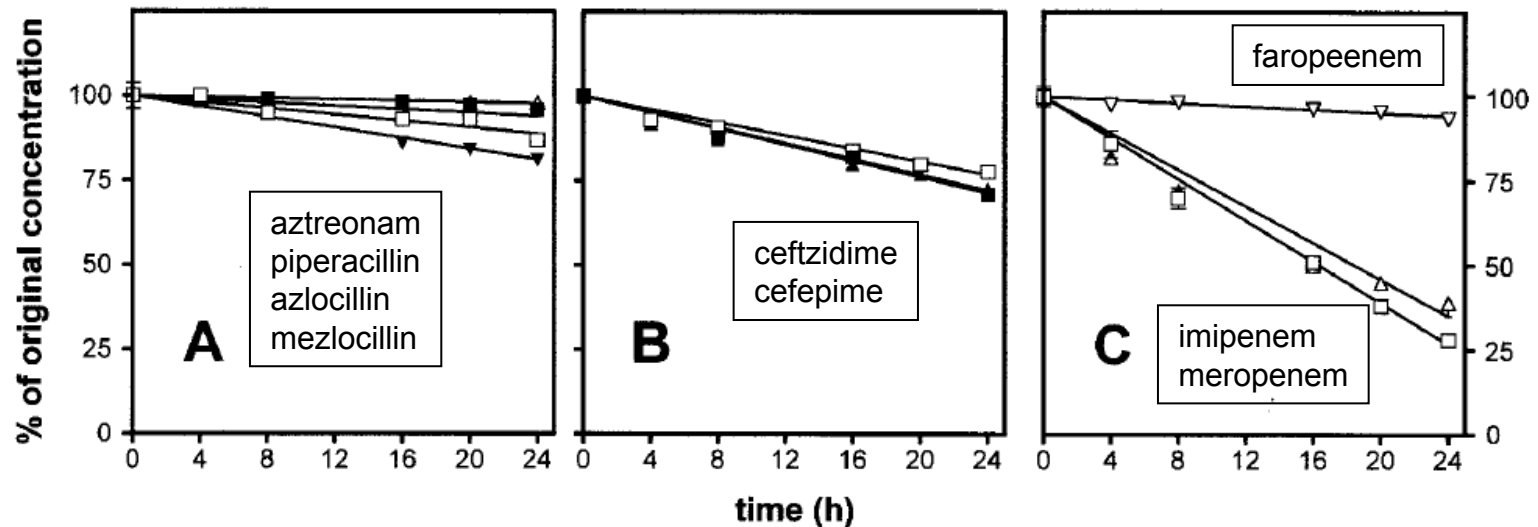
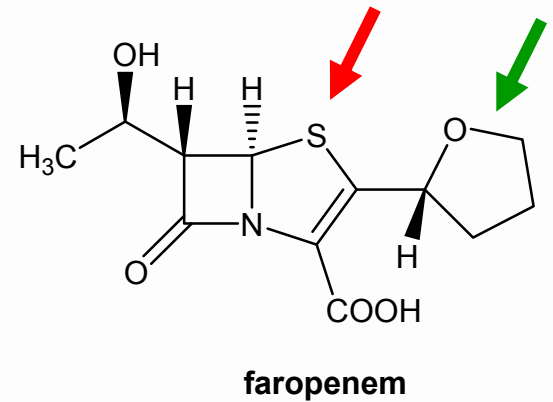
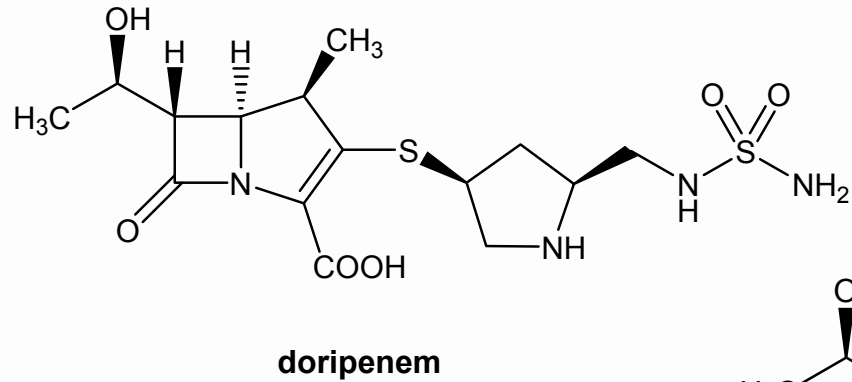
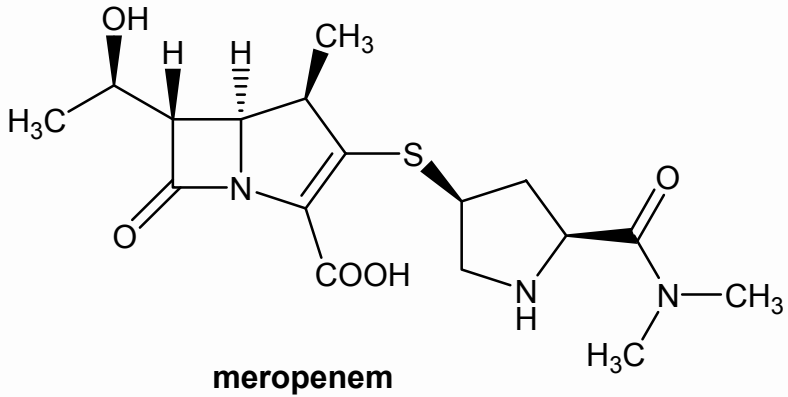


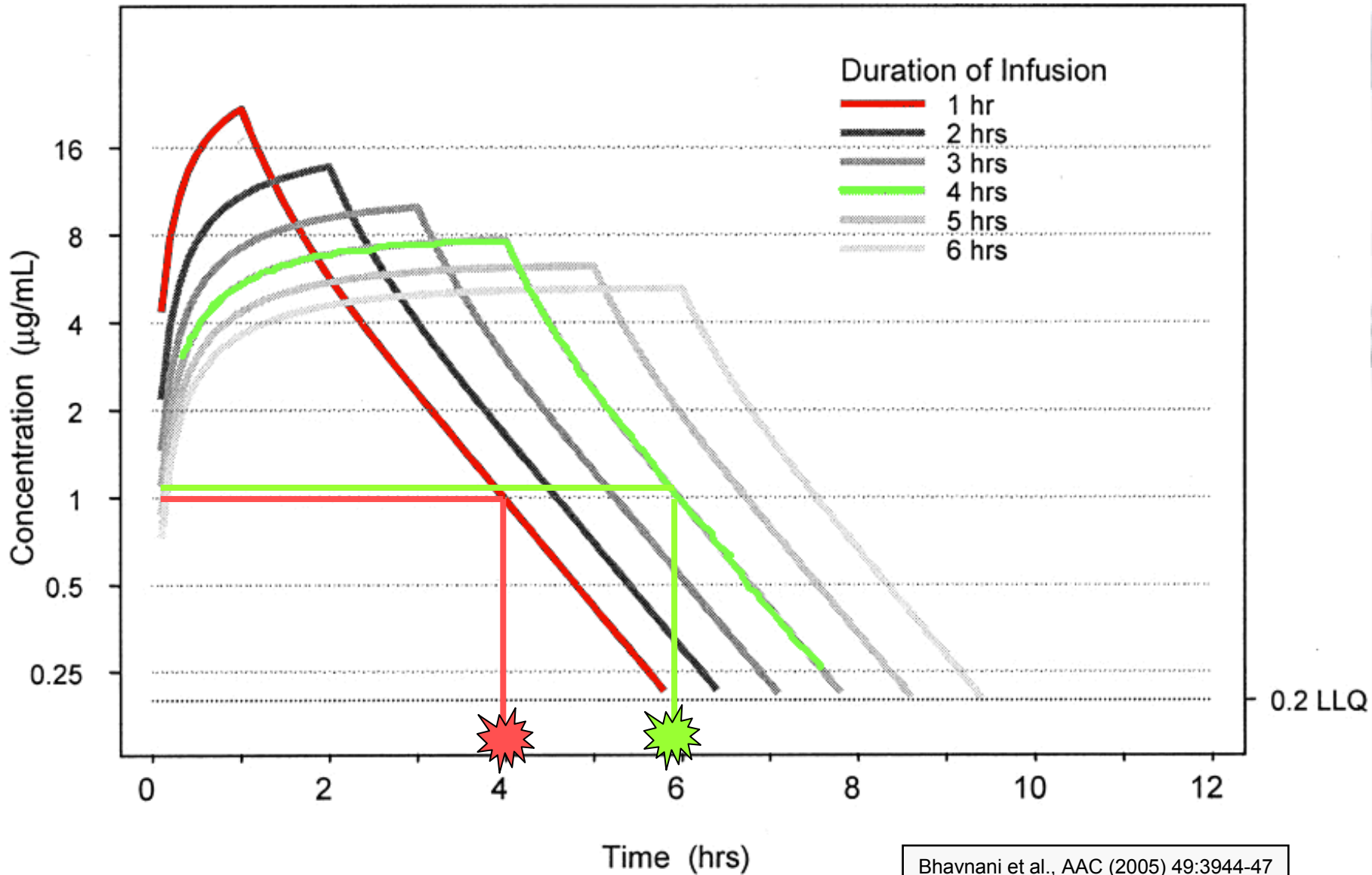
FIG. 1. Stability of the  $\beta$ -lactams in water at 37°C over time at the maximum concentration tested. (A) Symbols:  $\Delta$ , 10% aztreonam;  $\square$ , 12.8% piperacillin;  $\blacksquare$ , 12.8% piperacillin plus tazobactam (since the slope for 12.8% azocillin was almost identical to that for piperacillin-tazobactam, it was omitted for the sake of clarity);  $\blacktriangledown$ , 12.8% mezlocillin. (B) Symbols:  $\blacksquare$ , 12% ceftazidime;  $\square$ , 5% cefepime;  $\blacktriangle$ , 3.2% ceftazidime. (C) Symbols:  $\square$ , 0.8% imipenem plus cilastatin;  $\Delta$ , 6.4% meropenem;  $\nabla$ , 6.4% faropenem. All values are the means of three independent determinations  $\pm$  the standard deviation (SD; symbols without bars indicate values for which the SD is smaller than the symbol size).

Viaene et al. Antimicrob. Agents Chemother. 2002; 46:2327–2332

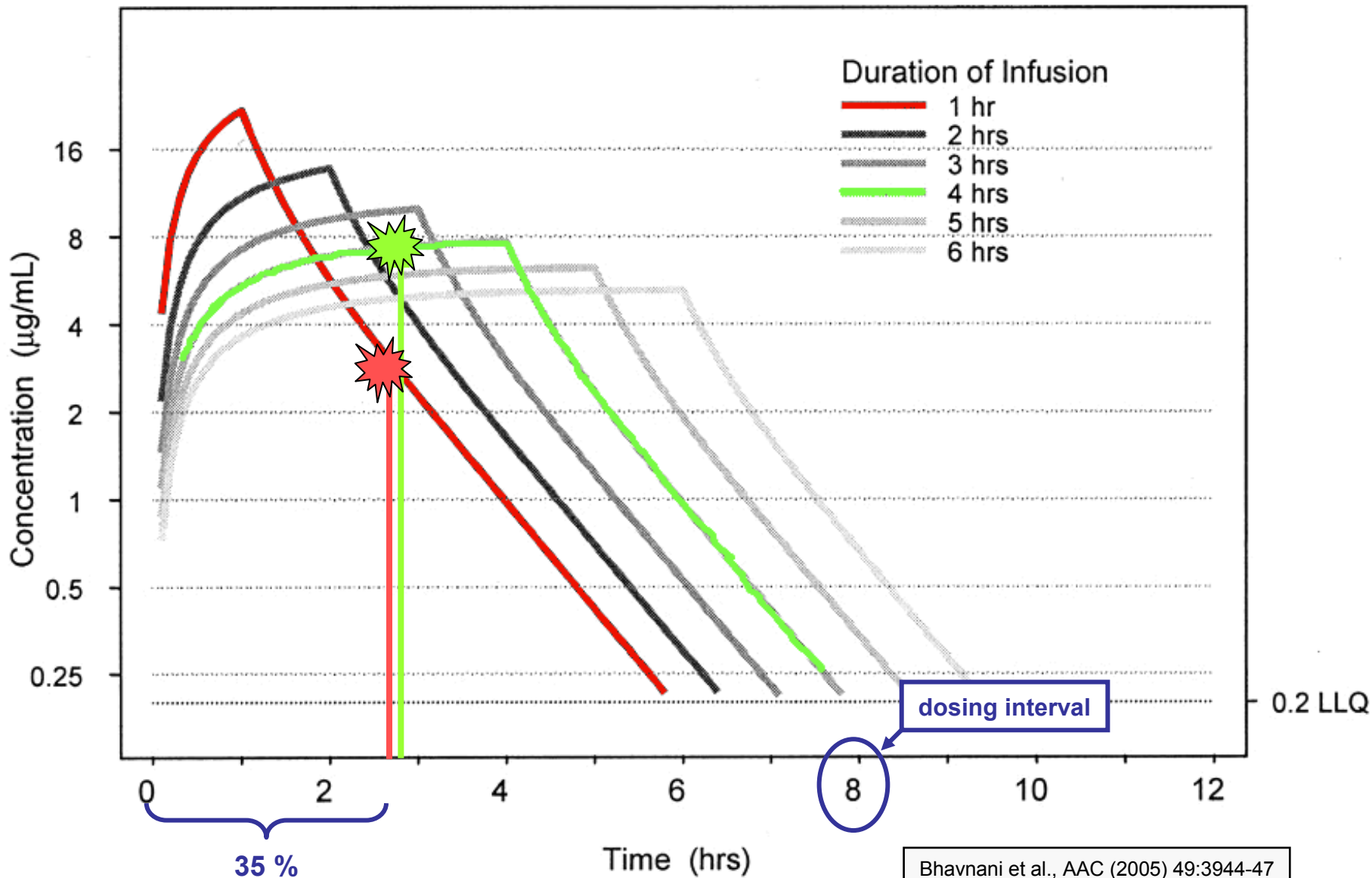
# Penems are not penams...



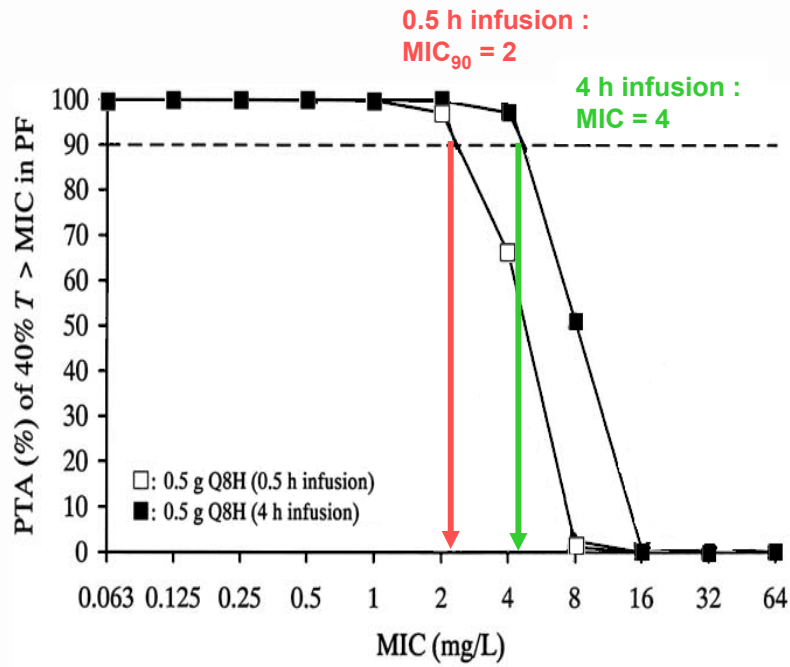
# Doripenem: improvement of $fT > MIC$ by means of prolonged infusion



# Doripenem: prolonged infusion allow to cover higher MICs for a $fT > MIC$ of 35 %

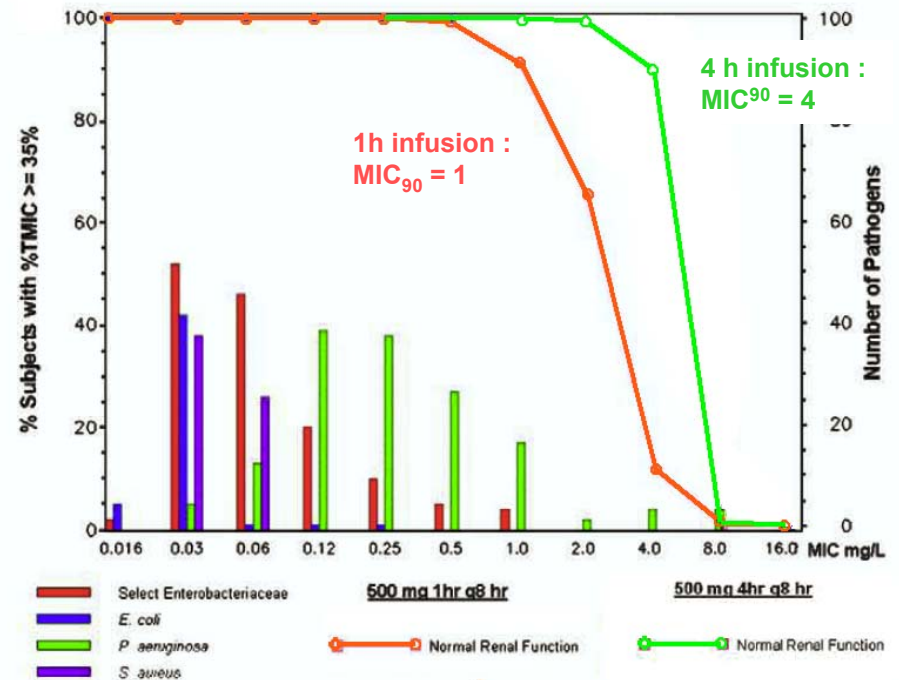


# Doripenem: Target attainment rate after Monte-Carlo simulation

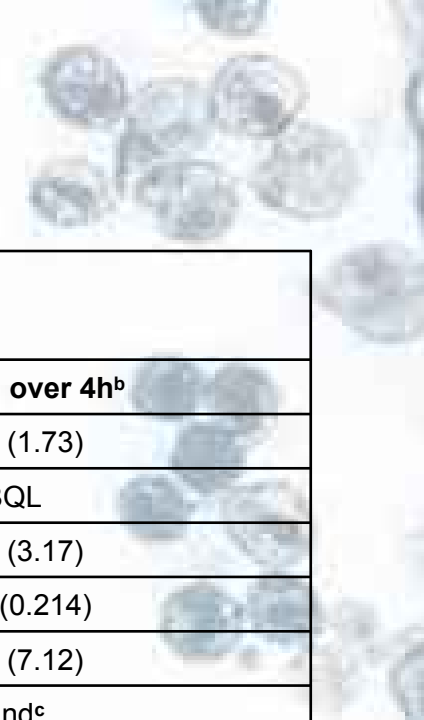


Ikawa et al., Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis. (2008) 62:292-7  
Japanese patients after IA surgery...

Van Wart et al., Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis. (2009) 63:409-414  
Patients from clinical trials ...

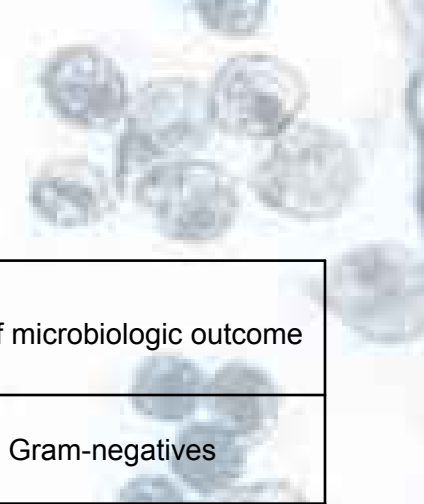


# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation



<b>4. Pharmacokinetics</b>		
<b>Dosage</b>	<b>500 mg over 1h<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>500 mg over 4h<sup>b</sup></b>
<b>C<sub>max</sub> (mg/L)</b>	21.1 (4.63)	8.69 (1.73)
<b>C<sub>min</sub> (mg/L)</b>	BQL	BQL
<b>Total body clearance (L/h)</b>	15.3 (3.54)	14.6 (3.17)
<b>T<sub>1/2</sub> (h)</b>	1.15 (0.287)	1.23 (0.214)
<b>AUC<sub>last</sub> (mg.h/L)</b>	33.9 (7.40)	35.7 (7.12)
<b>Fraction unbound (%)</b>	Doripenem is approximately 8 % protein bound <sup>c</sup>	
<b>Volume of distribution (L/kg)</b>	16.9 (3.81)	18.0 (4.03)
<b>References</b>	a,b,c	
<b>Comments</b>	Mean (SD) presented BQL – Below Quantifiable Limit (LLOQ = 0.100 mg/mL)	
References (a) Multiple-Dose data from study DORI-NOS-1001. No accumulation was noted and data similar to that after single-dose administration. (b) Single-Dose data from study DORI-NOS-1004. (c) S-4661-B-05-N, R1412, R1414, R1417		

*In press – not final*



# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation

## 5. Pharmacodynamics

As with other carbapenems the animal model studies demonstrated that T>MIC is the best predictor of microbiologic outcome (key pharmacodynamic index) for doripenem.

	<i>S. pneumoniae</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	Gram-negatives
<b>% fT&gt;MIC for bacteriostasis<sup>a</sup></b>	12.4+/-6.2	29+/-5.3	<b>29+/-5.3</b>
<b>% fT&gt;MIC for 1 log drop</b>	21.1+/-8.9	32.3+/-6.7	<b>36.1+/-7.4</b>
<b>% fT&gt;MIC for 2 log drop</b>	27.3+/-11.9	35.4+/-5.0	<b>43.3+/-7.1</b>
<b>References</b>	Andes and Craig. ICAAC.2003	Andes and Craig. ICAAC.2003	Andes and Craig. ICAAC.2003
<b>Comments</b>	a.Data from neutropenic mouse thigh infection model: 6 strains of <i>S. pneumoniae</i> , 3 strains of <i>S. aureus</i> , 3 strains of <i>E. coli</i> , 4 strains <i>K. pneumoniae</i> , 2 strains of <i>E. cloacae</i> , and 1 strain <i>P. aeruginosa</i> for stasis and 1 log drop (one strain of <i>E.coli</i> and one strain of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> not done for 2 log drop)		
<b>References</b> 1. Andes DR, Craig WA. Presented at: 43rd ICAAC Conference; Chicago, IL; Sept 14-17, 2003; A-308 2. Andes D, Craig WA. Animal model pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics: a critical review. Int J Antimicrob Agents 2002;19(4):261-8. 3. Kuti JL, Ong C, Lo M, Melnick D, Soto N, Nicolau DP. Comparison of probability of target attainment calculated by Monte Carlo simulation with meropenem clinical and microbiological response for the treatment of complicated skin and skin structure infections. Int J Antimicrob Agents 2006;28(1):62-8. 4. Burgess DS, Frei CR. Comparison of beta-lactam regimens for the treatment of gram-negative pulmonary infections in the intensive care unit based on pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics. J Antimicrob Chemother 2005;56(5):893-8. 5. Data on file. Andes D, Craig WA. DORI-M-002: The pharmacodynamic activities of doripenem. Madison, WI; 2002.			

*In press – not final*










# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation

## 6. Monte Carlo simulations and Pk/Pd breakpoints

Modeling using Monte Carlo simulations using human population PK and the conservative target of 35% T>MIC predicted that 500 mg of doripenem administered for 1 h every 8 h would be effective against organisms with an MIC  $\leq 2 - 4$  mg/L, and treatment prolonged (4 h) infusions enhances the T>MIC for less susceptible strains microorganisms with an MIC of 4mg/L.

MIC (mg/L)	Dose (mg)	Interdose Interval (hour)	Inf Duration (hour)	T>MIC 25%	T>MIC 30%	T>MIC 35%
0.06	500	8	1	100	100	100
0.12	500	8	1	100	100	100
0.25	500	8	1	100	100	100
0.5	500	8	1	100	99.8	98.84
1	500	8	1	99.66	97.28	92.1
2	500	8	1	95.22	84.3	71.26
4	500	8	1	68.62	49.86	36.34
8	500	8	1	23.36	13.76	8.36
16	500	8	1	1.3	0.62	0.26

MIC (mg/L)	DOSE (mg)	Interdose Interval (hour)	Inf Duration (hour)	T>MIC 25%	T>MIC 30%	T>MIC 35%
0.06	500	8	4	100	100	100
0.12	500	8	4	100	100	100
0.25	500	8	4	100	100	100
0.5	500	8	4	100	100	100
1	500	8	4	100	100	100
2	500	8	4	100	100	99.98
4	500	8	4	94.24	92.5	89.06
8	500	8	4	29.94	24.78	19.54
16	500	8	4	0.92	0.64	0.28

*In press – not final*

# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation

## Specific target attainment rates for organisms obtained in the phase 3 clinical studies

Species specific target attainment	Dosing regimens used					
	500 mg, q8h, 1 h infusion			500 mg, q8h, 4 h infusion		
	25% T>MIC	30% T>MIC	35% T>MIC	25% T>MIC	30% T>MIC	35% T>MIC
Enterobacteriaceae	99.88	99.82	<b>99.72</b>	99.91	99.9	<b>99.9</b>
Non-Enterobacteriaceae	92.34	90.13	<b>87.83</b>	93.96	93.69	<b>93.3</b>
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	91.42	88.96	<b>86.41</b>	<b>93.25</b>	<b>92.95</b>	<b>92.51</b>
<i>Acinetobacter</i> spp.	82.13	80.95	<b>78.99</b>	82.26	82.2	<b>82.16</b>
Other gram-negative	99.43	98.01	<b>96.06</b>	100.02	100.02	<b>100.01</b>
<i>Haemophilus</i> spp.	100	99.97	<b>99.88</b>	100	100	<b>100</b>
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	76.79	62.42	<b>50.79</b>	90.61	89.4	<b>87.18</b>
<i>S. aureus</i> Oxa-S	100	100	<b>99.99</b>	100	100	<b>100</b>
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	100	99.91	<b>99.7</b>	100.	100.	<b>100.</b>
<i>Streptococcus</i> spp. (other than <i>S. pneumoniae</i> )	99.81	99.66	<b>99.54</b>	99.96	99.96	<b>99.93</b>
Other gram-Positive	90.13	89.74	<b>89.02</b>	90.08	90.05	<b>90.03</b>
All Anaerobes	97.75	97.26	<b>96.66</b>	98.09	98	<b>97.89</b>

*In press – not final*

# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation

## Specific target attainment rates for organisms obtained in the phase 3 clinical studies

### Dosing regimens used

Species specific target attainment	500 mg, q8h, 1 h infusion			500 mg, q8h, 4 h infusion		
	25% T>MIC	30% T>MIC	35% T>MIC	25% T>MIC	30% T>MIC	35% T>MIC
<b>Enterobacteriaceae</b>	99.88	99.82	<b>99.72</b> ← 😊	99.91	99.9	99.9
Non-Enterobacteriaceae	92.34	90.13	87.83	93.96	93.69	93.3
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<b>Other gram-negative</b>	99.43	98.01	<b>96.06</b> ← 😊	100.02	100.02	100.01
<b><i>Haemophilus</i> spp.</b>	100	99.97	<b>99.88</b> ← 😊	100	100	100
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	76.79	62.42	50.79	90.61	89.4	87.18
<b><i>S. aureus</i> Oxa-S</b>	100	100	<b>99.99</b> ← 😊	100	100	100
<b><i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i></b>	100	99.91	<b>99.7</b> ← 😊	100.	100.	100.
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*In press – not final*

# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation

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All Anaerobes	97.75	97.26	96.66	98.09	98	97.89



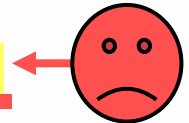
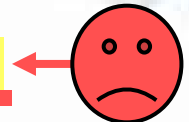
*In press – not final*

# EUCAST PK/PD evaluation

## Specific target attainment rates for organisms obtained in the phase 3 clinical studies

### Dosing regimens used

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Other gram-Positive	90.13	89.74	89.02	90.08	90.05	90.03
All Anaerobes	97.75	97.26	96.66	98.09	98	97.89



*In press – not final*

# EMEA registration

## Pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic relationship

Similar to other beta-lactam antimicrobial agents, the time that the plasma concentration of doripenem exceeds the MIC (%T>MIC) of the infecting organism has been shown to best correlate with efficacy in pre-clinical pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic (PK/PD) studies. Monte Carlo simulations using pathogen susceptibility results from completed phase 3 trials and population PK data indicated that the %T>MIC target of 35% was achieved in greater than 90% of patients with nosocomial pneumonia, complicated urinary tract infections and complicated intra-abdominal infections, for all degrees of renal function.

Extending the infusion time of Doribax to 4 hours maximizes the %T>MIC for a given dose and is the basis for the option to administer 4-hour infusions in patients with nosocomial pneumonia including ventilator-associated pneumonia. In seriously ill patients or those with an impaired immune response, a 4-hour infusion time may be more suitable when the MIC of doripenem for the known or suspected pathogen(s) has been shown or is expected to be > 0.5 mg/l, in order to reach a target attainment of 50% T>MIC in at least 95% of the patients (see section 4.2). Monte Carlo simulations supported the use of 500 mg 4-hour infusions every 8 hours in subjects with normal renal function for target pathogens with doripenem MICs  $\leq 4$  mg/l.

# EMEA registration



## Breakpoints \*

Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) breakpoints established by the European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (EUCAST) are as follows:

Non species related

Staphylococci

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 4 \text{ mg/l}$   
inferred from the methicillin  
breakpoint

*Enterobacteriaceae*

*Acinetobacter* spp.

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 4 \text{ mg/l}$

*Pseudomonas* spp.

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 4 \text{ mg/l}$

*Streptococcus* spp. other than *S. pneumoniae*

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 4 \text{ mg/l}$

*S. pneumoniae*

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 1 \text{ mg/l}$

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 1 \text{ mg/l}$

Enterococci

“inappropriate target”

*Haemophilus* spp.

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 1 \text{ mg/l}$

*N. gonorrhoeae*

IE (insufficient evidence)

Anaerobes

$S \leq 1 \text{ mg/l}$  and  $R > 1 \text{ mg/l}$

\* clinical data are fully taken into account in the EUCAST breakpoint setting !

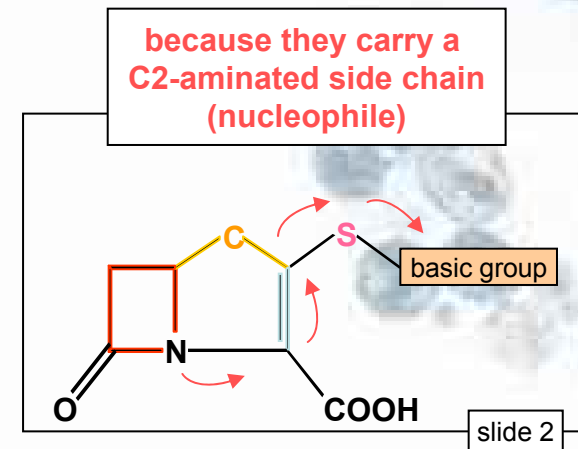
# But are all carbapenems sufficiently stable for a 4 h infusion ?

TABLE 3. Time during which  $\beta$ -lactams remains  $>90\%$  stable at the highest concentration tested (see Table 1)

Drug(s)	Time (h, min) <sup>a</sup> at:	
	37°C	25°C
Aztreonam	>24	ND
Piperacillin	21, 40	~30
Piperacillin + tazobactam	>24	$\geq 72^b$
Azlocillin	>24	$\geq 72^b$
Mezlocillin	14	46, 30
Ceftazidime	8	24
Cefepime	13	20, 30
Cefpirome	7, 15	23, 40
Imipenem + cilastatin	2, 45	3, 30
<u>Meropenem</u>	<u>1, 50</u>	<u>5, 15</u>
Faropenem	>24	~80

<sup>a</sup> Decays were monitored for 24 h; the slope was calculated by linear regression and used to determine the 90% stability time point. All data were rounded to the closest 15-min value. ND, not determined.

<sup>b</sup> 90% stability for at least 72 h, but the slope was too weak to calculate the 90% intercept value with accuracy from the 24-h decay data.

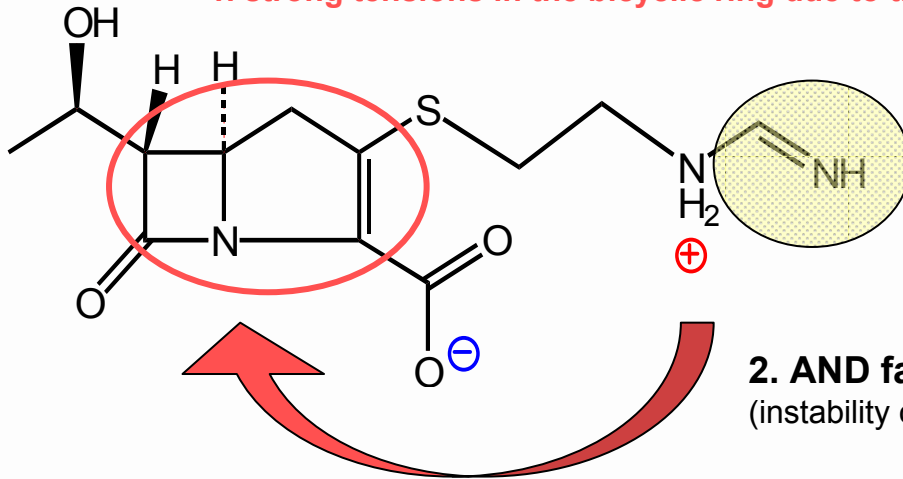


these penems are less stable than other  $\beta$ -lactams !



# But how can doripenem still be used in a 4 h infusion (vs. imipenem) ?

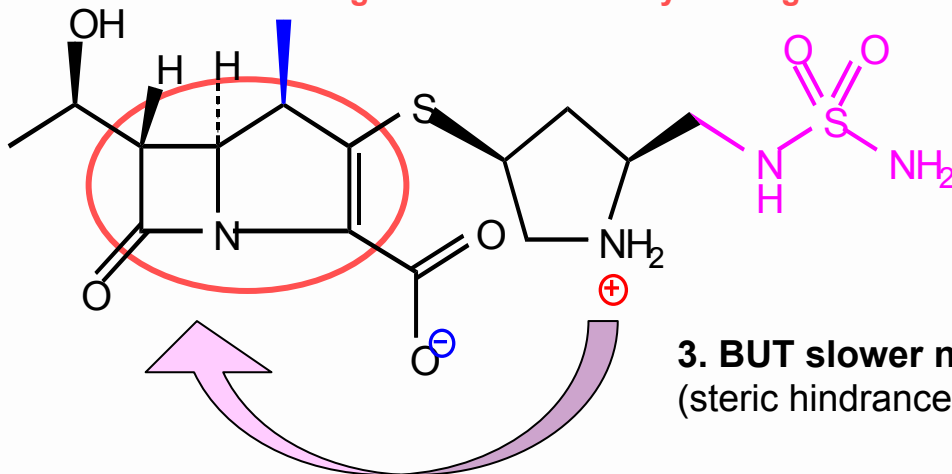
1. strong tensions in the bicyclic ring due to the C2-C3 double bond



imipenem

2. AND fast nucleophilic attack (instability of the amidinium function)

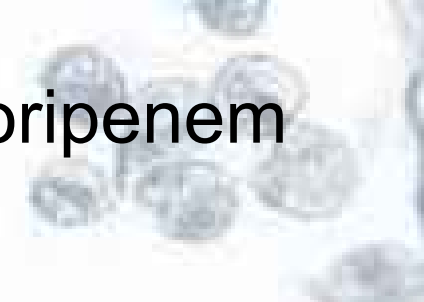
1. same strong tensions in the bicyclic ring due to the C2-C3 double bond



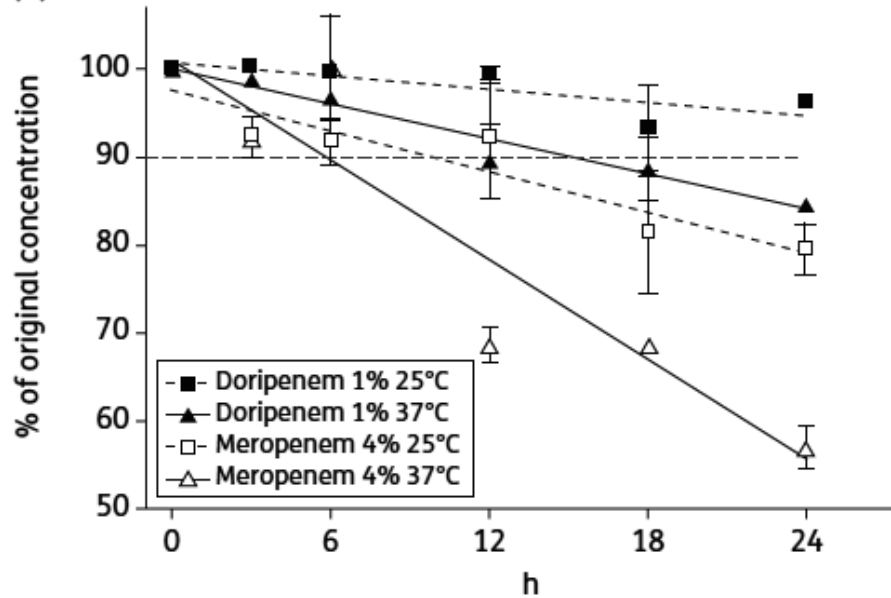
doripenem (and also meropenem)

3. BUT slower nucleophilic attack (steric hindrance)

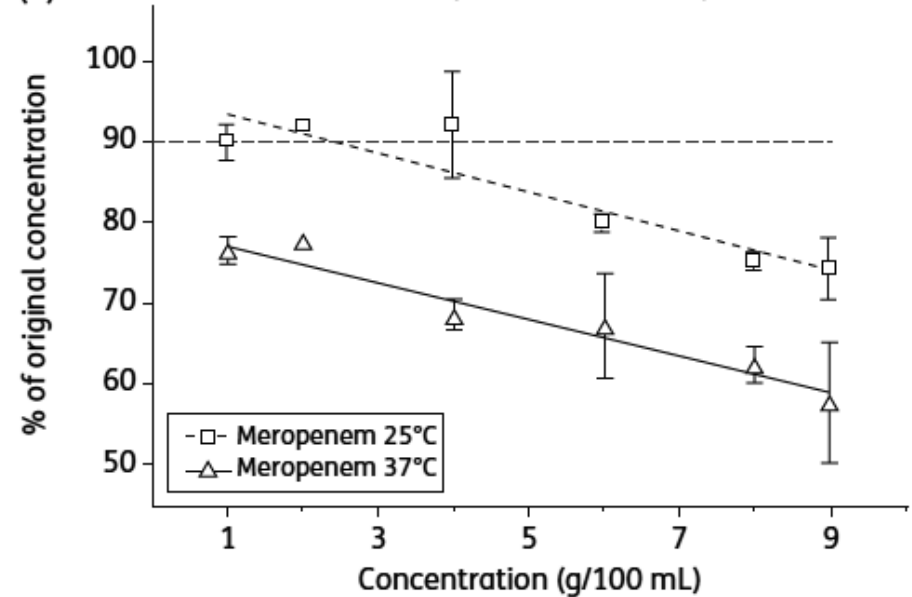
# Comparison between meropenem and doripenem



(a) Influence of time



(b) Influence of concentration (12 h of incubation)



Berthoin et al. J. Antimicrob. Chemother. 2010; 65:1073-1075

# Stability according to EMEA

## Preparation of 500 mg dose of solution for infusion

1. Add 10 ml of sterile water for injections or sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection to the vial and shake it to form a suspension.
2. Inspect the suspension visually for foreign matter. Note: the suspension is not for direct infusion.
3. Withdraw the suspension using a syringe and needle and add it to an infusion bag containing 100 ml of either sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection or dextrose 50 mg/ml (5%) solution for injection and mix to complete dissolution. Infuse all of this solution to administer a 500 mg dose of doripenem.

**→ 0.5 % solution... Intensive Care Units may like to put 500 mg in 48 mL (1.048 %)**

## Time by which reconstitution, dilution and infusion must complete for Doribax infusion solutions

Infusion solution	Solution stored at room temperature	Solution stored in a refrigerator (2°C-8°C)
sodium chloride 9 mg/ml (0.9%) solution for injection	12 hours	72 hours*
+ dextrose 50 mg/ml (5%) solution for injection	4 hours	24 hours*

\* Once removed from the refrigerator, infusions should be completed within the room temperature stability time, provided the total refrigeration time, time to reach room temperature and infusion time does not exceed refrigeration stability time.

+ Dextrose 50 mg/ml (5%) solution for injection should not be used for infusion durations greater than 1 hour.

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+ Dextrose 50 mg/ml solution should be used for infusion durations greater than 1 hour.

glucose is a good nucleophilic  
attacker  
(a lot of -OH groups...)

# More information about stability...

Clinical Therapeutics/Volume 30, Number 11, 2008

## Stability of Doripenem in Vitro in Representative Infusion Solutions and Infusion Bags

Petros A. Psathas, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Andrew Kuzmission, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Kaori Ikeda, PhD<sup>2</sup>; and Shiho Yasuo, BS<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, Raritan, New Jersey; and <sup>2</sup>Shionogi & Co., Ltd., Discovery Research Laboratories, Toyonaka, Osaka, Japan

**Your Pharmacist  
will love this...**



**Conclusions:** Doripenem 5 mg/mL was stable for up to 12 hours in vitro in 0.9% sodium chloride at room temperature. Therefore, doripenem can be constituted, mixed with infusion fluids in the pharmacy, stored, delivered, and infused into a patient within a time frame suitable for 4-hour extended infusions. (*Clin Ther.* 2008;30:2075–2087) © 2008 Excerpta Medica Inc.



# $\beta$ - lactams and continuous infusion



**A BRILLIANT IDEA....**



But do not forget the problems...