

ANSORP NOW

CONTENTS :

1. WHO Meeting of TWG-AMR in the Western Pacific Region
2. Publication of ANSORP in Dec 2013
3. Interesting papers

Dear ANSORP Investigators

Greetings from Seoul !

I hope all ANSORP investigators are doing well.

This is the **2013 December issue of ANSORP NOW**. It provides update information and current status of ANSORP activities. "ANSORP NOW" is a monthly newsletter, delivered to all ANSORP investigators by e-mail and website of APFID (www.apfid.org).

Please read this ANSORP NOW carefully to update our international collaboration. If you have any ideas, opinions, or issues that can be shared with other ANSORP investigators, please send us e-mails or FAX.

I always appreciate your active participation in the ANSORP activities.

Wishing you and your family a happy holiday season and the New Year filled with joy and happiness. I am sending my best personal regards to all of you !

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Organizer, ANSORP
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WHO Meeting of Technical Working Group on AMR (TWG-AMR) in the Western Pacific Region

WHO Western Pacific Region has identified antimicrobial resistance (AMR) as a technical priority in the region. Following the WHO consultation meeting on AMR in August in Manila, Philippines, the WHO Meeting of Technical Working Group on antimicrobial resistance (TWG-AMR) in the Western Pacific Region was held on December 17-19 in Manila, Philippines. Dr. Jae-Hoon Song was invited as a Chairperson of the TWG-AMR. He attended the meeting via Skype in Seoul, Korea due to a schedule conflict. On behalf of ANSORP, Dr. Doo Ryeon Chung attended the meeting. Also, Dr. Celia Carlos in Philippines attended the meeting as a TWG-AMR member.

The TWG-AMR shall advise WHO on AMR in the Western Pacific region. Also, it shall give guidance on the development of regional roadmap and action plan for AMR surveillance, prioritization of activities, the major gap and challenges to be addressed to strengthen AMR surveillance in the region, and the engagement of national and international networks and partners who will strengthen and establish a robust AMR surveillance system in the region.



Publication of ANSORP in December 2013

Dissemination of metallo- β -lactamase-producing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* of sequence type 235 in Asian countries.

J Antimicrob Chemother. 2013 Dec;68(12):2820-4.

Kim MJ, Bae IK, Jeong SH, Kim SH, Song JH, Choi JY, Yoon SS, Thamlikitkul V, Hsueh PR, Yasin RM, Lalitha MK, Lee K.

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVES: To investigate the epidemiological traits of metallo- β -lactamase (MBL)-producing *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (MPPA) clinical isolates collected by the Asian Network for Surveillance of Resistant Pathogens (ANSORP).

METHODS: A total of 16 MPPA clinical isolates were collected from six Asian countries in 2000 to 2009 by ANSORP. The MBL gene was detected by PCR amplification. The genetic organization of the class 1 integron carrying the MBL gene cassette was investigated by PCR mapping and sequencing. Southern blotting, repetitive sequence-based PCR and multilocus sequence typing (MLST) experiments were performed to characterize the isolates.

RESULTS: PCR and sequencing experiments detected the blaVIM-2 (n = 12), blaVIM-3 (n = 1), blaIMP-6 (n = 2) and blaIMP-26 (n = 1) genes. The MBL genes were located on the chromosome in all isolates except one. Furthermore, all the MBL genes were located in a class 1 integron. All the MPPA isolates from Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Korea were identified as sequence type (ST) 235 by MLST. Three VIM-2-producing isolates from India were identified as ST773, and one isolate harbouring VIM-3 from Taiwan was identified as ST298.

CONCLUSIONS: *P. aeruginosa* ST235 might play a role in dissemination of MBL genes in Asian countries.

Interesting papers

Global resistance of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*: when theory becomes reality.

Curr Opin Infect Dis. 2014 Feb;27(1):62-7

Lewis DA

ABSTRACT

PURPOSE OF REVIEW: *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* has demonstrated a remarkable genetic capacity to acquire antimicrobial resistance (AMR) determinants. This review focuses on the recent developments in respect of third generation extended spectrum cephalosporin (ESC)-resistant gonorrhoea and the search for future treatment options.

RECENT FINDINGS: The estimated incidence of new gonorrhoea cases is increasing, and the antimicrobial resistance profile of *N. gonorrhoeae* is worsening. The most significant recent finding has been the emergence of extensively drug-resistant (XDR) *N. gonorrhoeae* characterized by very high ceftriaxone minimum inhibitory concentrations. A national switch from cefixime to high-dose ceftriaxone as first-line antgonococcal therapy in England and Wales, as well as parts of Japan, has been accompanied by a reduction in the prevalence of oral ESC-resistant gonococci. Azithromycin given in combination with either gentamicin or gemifloxacin has been shown to be an effective alternative antgonococcal therapy. Both ertapenem and solithromycin have good in-vitro activity against ESC-resistant *N. gonorrhoeae* strains.

SUMMARY: Current strategies to control gonococcal AMR should focus on the use of higher doses of ceftriaxone given as part of dual therapy and further evaluation of alternative drug combinations. The emergence of XDR gonorrhoea argues for enhanced efforts to develop novel antimicrobial agents and a gonococcal vaccine.

Control of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* in the Era of Evolving Antimicrobial Resistance.

Infect Dis Clin North Am. 2013 Dec;27(4):723-37

Barbee LA, Dombrowski JC

ABSTRACT

Neisseria gonorrhoeae has developed resistance to all previous first-line antimicrobial therapies over the past 75 years. Today the cephalosporins, the last available antibiotic class that is sufficiently effective, are also threatened by evolving resistance. Screening for asymptomatic gonorrhoea in women and men who have sex with men, treating with a dual antibiotic regimen, ensuring effective partner therapy, and remaining vigilant for treatment failures constitute critical activities for clinicians in responding to evolving antimicrobial resistance. This article reviews the epidemiology, history of antimicrobial resistance, current screening and treatment guidelines, and future treatment options for gonorrhoea.

If you need PDF version of the papers, please contact ANSORP Project Manager (Dr. So Hyun Kim, shkim@ansorp.org).

We always appreciate your active contribution to ANSORP activities.
If you have any questions, or issues that can be shared with other ANSORP investigators, please let us know them at any time.