

# Introduction to Antimicrobial Therapy

Christine Kubin, Pharm.D., BCPS  
Clinical Pharmacist, Infectious Diseases

## Case #1

- L.G. is a 78 yo woman admitted for cardiac cath. 3-vessel disease was identified and she was taken to the OR for CABG.
- Post-op in CTICU - patient did well. Extubated on POD#2.
- Transferred to the floor POD#4
- POD#6: spiked a temp to 101.7 with respiratory distress. Re-intubated and transferred back to the ICU. Blood, urine, sputum cultures were obtained.

## Case #1 (cont.)

- The decision is made to start the patient on broad-spectrum antibiotics for presumed pneumonia
- The Surgery Resident, being his first week, is unsure which antibiotic to start, but remembers that piperacillin/tazobactam is "a broad-spectrum antibiotic"
- What questions should the resident ask himself in deciding which antibiotic to choose?

## Case #2

- 68 y.o. female with HTN, anxiety with chest pain symptoms
- 7/27/05: Cath - 3 vessel CAD with normal LV function
- 9/12/05: admitted for CABG x 4 with LIMA without complications
- 9/13/05: extubated, diffuse ECG changes c/w pericarditis, a-fib, worsening hypotension, increased pressor requirements, re-explored in OR (RV failure)
- 9/14/05: hypotension with low filling pressures, severe cardiogenic shock with ARDS, VF arrest, emergent sternotomy, IABP placed
- 9/18/05: IABP d/c'd, duotube placed
- 9/19/05: extubated
- 9/21/05: re-intubated

## Case #2 (cont.)

- 9/23/05: febrile, increase in pressor requirements, blood cultures drawn, started empiric antibiotics: vancomycin 1g IV q24h + piperacillin/tazobactam 4.5 g IV q8h

### Question: Are these empiric antibiotics appropriate?

- Spectrum?
  - Consider existing culture and susceptibility results
- Doses?
  - Consider existing or potential microbiology
  - Consider site of infection
  - Consider end-organ function

- 9/25/05: blood cultures +*P. aeruginosa*, tobramycin 160 mg IV q24h added, central lines changed (cordis, PA catheter)

- 9/27/05: cath tip +*P. aeruginosa*, *C. albicans*; additional blood cultures drawn

### Question: Is the addition of tobramycin appropriate?

- Synergy?
- Dose?

## What You Need to Know to Treat with Antibiotics...

- Know the drugs
- Know the microbiology
- Know the patient

## What You Need to Know to Treat with Antibiotics...

- Know the drugs
- Know the microbiology
- Know the patient

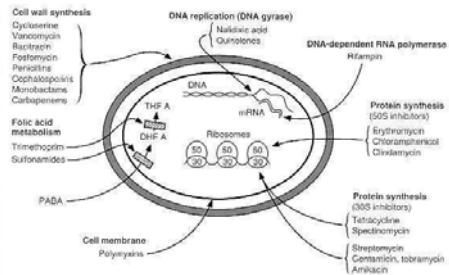
## What are Antimicrobials???

- Antimicrobials are drugs that destroy microbes, prevent their multiplication or growth, or prevent their pathogenic action
  - Differ in their physical, chemical, and pharmacological properties
  - Differ in antibacterial spectrum of activity
  - Differ in their mechanism of action

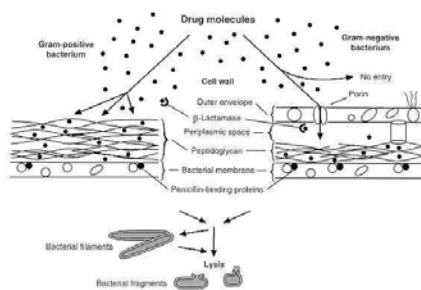
## Classification of Antimicrobials

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Inhibit cell wall synthesis                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Penicillins</li> <li>- Cephalosporins</li> <li>- Carbapenems</li> <li>- Monobactams (aztreonam)</li> <li>- Vancomycin</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Inhibit protein synthesis                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chloramphenicol</li> <li>- Tetracyclines</li> <li>- Glycylcycline (tigecycline)</li> <li>- Macrolides</li> <li>- Clindamycin</li> <li>- Streptogramins (quinupristin/dalfopristin)</li> <li>- Oxazolidinones (linezolid)</li> <li>- Aminoglycosides</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Alter nucleic acid metabolism                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rifamycins</li> <li>- Quinolones</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Inhibit folate metabolism                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trimethoprim</li> <li>- Sulfonamides</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Miscellaneous                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Metronidazole</li> <li>- Daptomycin</li> <li>- Polymyxins</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|--|--|

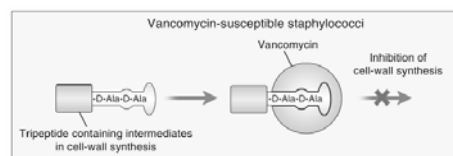
## Classification of Antimicrobials



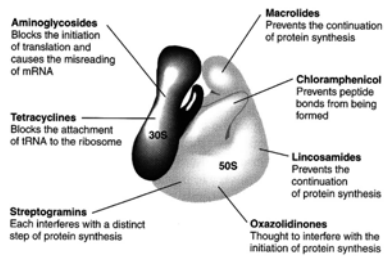
## Beta-lactams



## Vancomycin

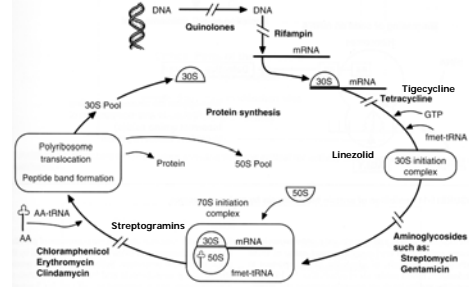


## Protein Synthesis Inhibitors



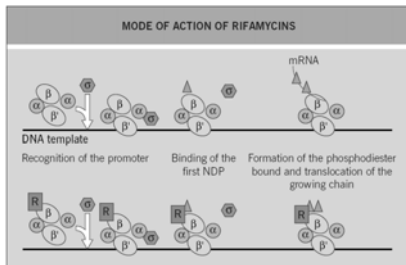
Slide courtesy of Frank Lowy

## Mechanisms of Action – Protein Synthesis Inhibitors



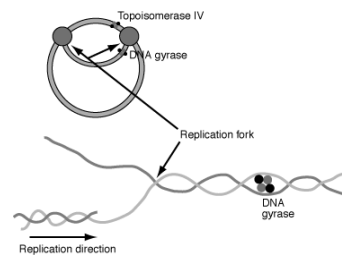
Slide courtesy of Frank Lowy

## Rifamycins



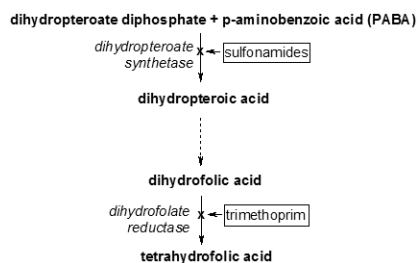
Rifamycins inhibit the  $\beta$  subunit of DNA-dependent RNA polymerase. Binding does not allow initiation of chain formation in RNA synthesis.

## Quinolones



Inhibit the activity of topoisomerases, which are enzymes responsible for the supercoiling of the DNA (DNA gyrase) and relaxation of the supercoiled DNA (topoisomerase IV)

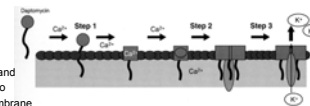
## Inhibitors of Folate Metabolism



## Miscellaneous

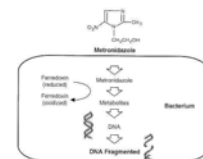
### Daptomycin

- Calcium-dependent binding and insertion of the lipophilic tail into gram-positive cytoplasmic membrane
- Oligomerization and channel formation occurs
- Ion leakage and collapse of organism leads to cell death



### Metronidazole

- Metronidazole enters a bacterium where, via the electron transport protein ferredoxin, it is reduced. The drug then binds to DNA and DNA breakage occurs.



## Antimicrobial therapy

- **Empiric**
  - Infecting organism(s) not yet identified
  - More "broad spectrum"
- **Definitive**
  - Organism(s) identified and specific therapy chosen
  - More "narrow" spectrum
- **Prophylactic or preventative**
  - Prevent an initial infection or its recurrence after infection

## What You Need to Know to Treat with Antibiotics...

- Know the drugs
- Know the microbiology
- Know the patient

## Culture Results

- Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)
  - The lowest concentration of drug that prevents visible bacterial growth after 24 hours of incubation in a specified growth medium
  - Organism and antimicrobial specific
  - Interpretation
    - Pharmacokinetics of the drug in humans
    - Drug's activity versus the organism
    - Site of infection
    - Drug resistance mechanisms
- Report organism(s) and susceptibilities to antimicrobials
  - Susceptible (S)
  - Intermediate (I)
  - Resistant (R)

## Culture Results Example

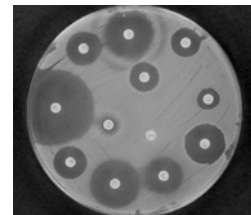
BLOOD CULTURE 2004-07-30 10:56														
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION:	BLOOD													
CULTURE:	POSITIVE FOR ESCHERICHIA COLI (gram)													
CULTURE:	GRAM STAIN OF POSITIVE BOTTLE: GRAM NEGATIVE RODS REPORTED TO DR ---- AT 1119 ON 07/31/04													
Collection time:	2004-07-30 10:56		Received time:	2004-07-30 10:56										
Status:	Final, Accno: F50319BCBLUD047U													
POSITIVE FOR ESCHERICHIA COLI														
METHOD:MICROSCAN MIC														
AMI	AMP	KTZ	CPM	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ
-4	-8	-4	-2	-4	-2	-8	-4	-1	-4	-2	-4	-8	-16	2 S
S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	--2,385

## Culture Results Example

BLOOD CULTURE 2004-06-02 10:42														
SPECIMEN DESCRIPTION:	BLOOD													
CULTURE:	POSITIVE FOR ESCHERICHIA COLI (gram)													
CULTURE:	GRAM STAIN OF POSITIVE BOTTLE: GRAM NEGATIVE RODS													
Collection time:	2004-06-02 10:42		Received time:	2004-06-02 10:42										
Status:	Final, Accno: W3019HBCBLUD0462													
POSITIVE FOR ESCHERICHIA COLI														
METHOD:MICROSCAN MIC														
AMI	AMP	KTZ	CPM	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ	CTZ
-4	-16	-16	-2	-8	-16	-2	-4	-4	-8	-4	-8	-4	-8	64 I 2 S
S	R	R	S	S	R	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	--2,385

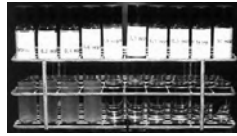
## Susceptibility Testing Methods

- Disk Diffusion (Kirby-Bauer disks)



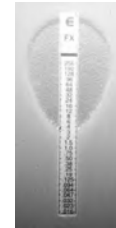
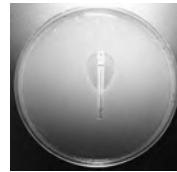
## Susceptibility Testing Methods

### ■ Broth Dilution

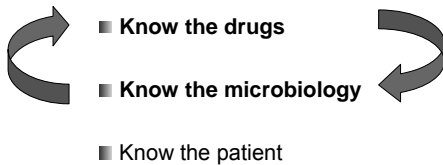


## Susceptibility Testing Methods

### ■ E-test (epsilometer test)

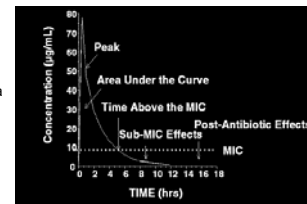


## What You Need to Know to Treat with Antibiotics...

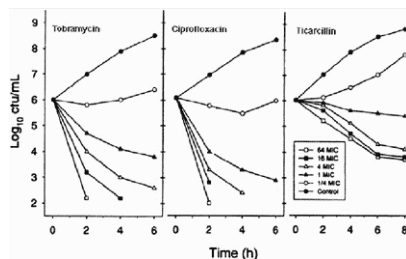


## Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, and the MIC

- Concentration vs. time-dependent killing agents
  - Concentration dependent agents ↑ bacterial killing as the drug concentrations exceed the MIC
    - Peak/MIC (AUC/MIC) ratio important
    - Quinolones, aminoglycosides
  - Time-dependent agents kill bacteria when the drug concentrations exceed the MIC
    - Time>MIC important
    - Penicillins, cephalosporins
- Post antibiotic effect (PAE)
  - Delayed regrowth of bacteria following exposure to the antimicrobial
    - Varies according to drug-bug combination



## Concentration-dependent and Time-dependent agents vs. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*



## Antimicrobial Pharmacodynamic Parameters

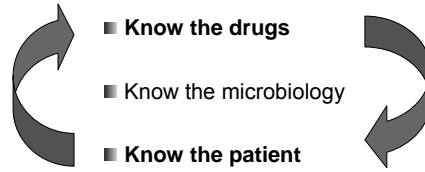
Drug Class	Pattern of Activity	PK-PD parameter
<b>Beta lactams</b>		
PCNs	Time-dependent killing and minimal persistent effects	T > MIC
Ceph		
Carbapenems		
Vancomycin	Time-dependent killing and prolonged persistent effects	T > MIC
<b>Aminoglycosides</b>	Concentration-dependent killing and prolonged persistent effects	Peak / MIC
Metronidazole		
<b>Fluoroquinolones</b>	Concentration-dependent killing and prolonged persistent effects	24 h AUC / MIC
Daptomycin		
<b>Macrolides</b>		
Clindamycin	Time-dependent killing and prolonged persistent effects	24 h AUC / MIC
Tetracyclines		
Ketolides		
Linezolid		



## Host Factors

- **Pregnancy**
  - Fetus at risk of drug teratogenicity
    - All antimicrobials cross the placenta in varying degrees
    - Penicillins, cephalosporins, erythromycin appear safe
  - Altered drug disposition
    - Penicillins, cephalosporins, and aminoglycosides are cleared more rapidly during pregnancy
    - ↑ intravascular volume, ↑ glomerular filtration rate, ↑ hepatic and metabolic activities
- **Genetic or metabolic abnormalities**
  - Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency
- **Renal and hepatic function**
  - Accumulation of drug metabolized and/or excreted by these routes with impaired function
  - ↑ risk of drug toxicity unless doses adjusted accordingly
  - Renal excretion is the most important route of elimination for the majority of antimicrobials
- **Underlying disease states**
  - Predispose to particular infectious diseases or alter most likely organisms

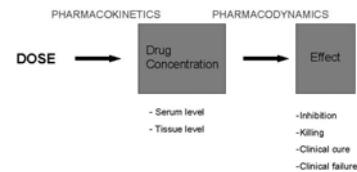
## What You Need to Know to Treat with Antibiotics...



## Site of Infection

- **Most important** factor to consider in antimicrobial selection
- Defines the most likely organisms
  - Especially helpful in empiric antimicrobial selection
- Determines the dose and route of administration of antimicrobial
  - Efficacy determined by adequate concentrations of antimicrobial at site of infection
  - Serum concentrations vs. tissue concentrations and relationship to MIC

## Drug/PK/PD Factors



## Pharmacokinetics

- **Absorption**
  - IM, SC, topical
  - GI via oral, tube, or rectal administration
  - Bioavailability = amount of drug that reaches the systemic circulation
- **Distribution**
  - Affected by the drug's lipophilicity, partition coefficient, blood flow to tissues, pH, and protein binding
- **Metabolism**
  - Phase I
    - Generally inactivate the substrate into a more polar compound
    - Dealkylation, hydroxylation, oxidation, deamination
    - Cytochrome P-450 system (CYP3A4, CYP2D6, CYP2C9, CYP1A2, CYP2E1)
  - Phase II
    - Conjugation of the parent compound with larger molecules, increasing the polarity
    - Generally inactivate the parent compound
    - Glucuronidation, sulfation, acetylation

## Pharmacokinetics

- **Elimination**
  - Total body clearance
    - Renal + non-renal clearance
    - Affects half-life ( $t_{1/2}$ )
  - Renal clearance
    - Glomerular filtration, tubular secretion, passive diffusion
    - Dialysis
  - Non-renal clearance
    - Sum of clearance pathways not involving the kidneys
    - Usually hepatic clearance, but also via biliary tree, intestines, skin
  - Half-life
    - Steady state concentrations reached after 4-5 half lives
    - Varies from patient to patient
    - Affected by changes in end-organ function and protein binding

## Concomitant Drug Therapy

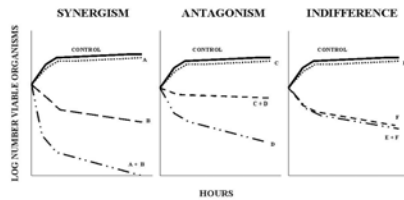
- Influences the selection of appropriate drug therapy, the dosage, and necessary monitoring
- Drug interactions
  - ↑ risk of toxicity or potential for ↓ efficacy of antimicrobial
  - May affect the patient and/or the organisms
  - Selection of combination antimicrobial therapy ( $\geq 2$  agents) requires understanding of the interaction potential
  - Pharmacokinetic interactions
  - Pharmacodynamic interactions

## Drug Interactions

- Pharmacokinetic
  - An alteration in one or more of the object drug's basic parameters
- Pharmacodynamic
  - An alteration in the drug's desired effects
- Absorption
  - Bioavailability
- Distribution
  - Protein binding
- Metabolism
  - CYP450
- Elimination
  - renal
- Synergistic/additive
  - May lead to desired or toxic effect
- Antagonistic
  - May lead to detrimental effects
- Indirect effects
  - Effect of one drug alters effect of another

## Combination Antimicrobial Therapy

- Synergistic
- Antagonistic
- Indifferent



## Other Drug Factors

- Adverse effect profile and potential toxicity
- Cost
  - Acquisition cost + storage + preparation + distribution + administration
  - Monitoring
  - Length of hospitalization + readmissions
  - Patient quality of life
- Resistance
  - Effects of the drug on the potential for the development of resistant bacteria in the patient, on the ward, and throughout the institution

## Antimicrobial Therapy

- Site of infection / Microbiology
  - Where is it?
  - Which organisms need to be covered?
    - Gram positives, gram-negatives, anaerobes
    - *P. aeruginosa*, MRSA
  - What are the organisms in the unit?
- Antibiotic
  - Does the patient have any allergies?
  - Will the antibiotic reach sufficient concentrations at the site of infection?
    - Penetration
    - Blood-brain barrier
  - How is the antibiotic cleared?
  - What are the potential toxicities?
  - What is the impact on resistance?
  - Drug interactions?
    - Good vs. bad
- Patient
  - Comorbid illness
    - Alters most likely organisms and potential sites of infection
    - Toxicities
  - End-organ function
  - Age/weight

## Summary

- Antimicrobials are essential components to treating infections
- Appropriate selection of antimicrobials is more complicated than matching a drug to a bug
- While a number of antimicrobials potentially can be considered, spectrum, clinical efficacy, adverse effect profile, pharmacokinetic disposition, and cost ultimately guide therapy
- Once an agent has been chosen, the dosage must be based upon the size of the patient, site of infection, route of elimination, and other factors
- Optimize therapy for each patient and try to avoid patient harm

**QUESTIONS?**

