

Introduction

Antimicrobial resistance has now emerged as a major threat worldwide impeding efficacious treatment of hospital associated as well as community acquired infections. No new drug has been developed in the last five decades to address the problem of AMR, especially due to Gram-negative infections. To address this key lacunae in the armamentarium to combat AMR, we have identified a novel drug candidate that is potent, bactericidal and have broad-spectrum anti-bacterial potency. An ideal assessment of their potency would be to test them against recent clinical isolates isolated from patients suffering from various bacterial infections. Towards this aim, we initiated testing against clinical pathogens from Narayana Health that were isolated from patients with various blood stream infections.

Methodology

The identity of isolates was confirmed using MALDI-TOF MS as per standard protocols at Narayana Health. The antibiotic susceptibility profiles were confirmed using Phoenix/VITEK prior to the initiation of MIC studies against key pathogens, using the microtitre based broth dilution method. MIC90 against each of the pathogen was calculated.

Data Highlights

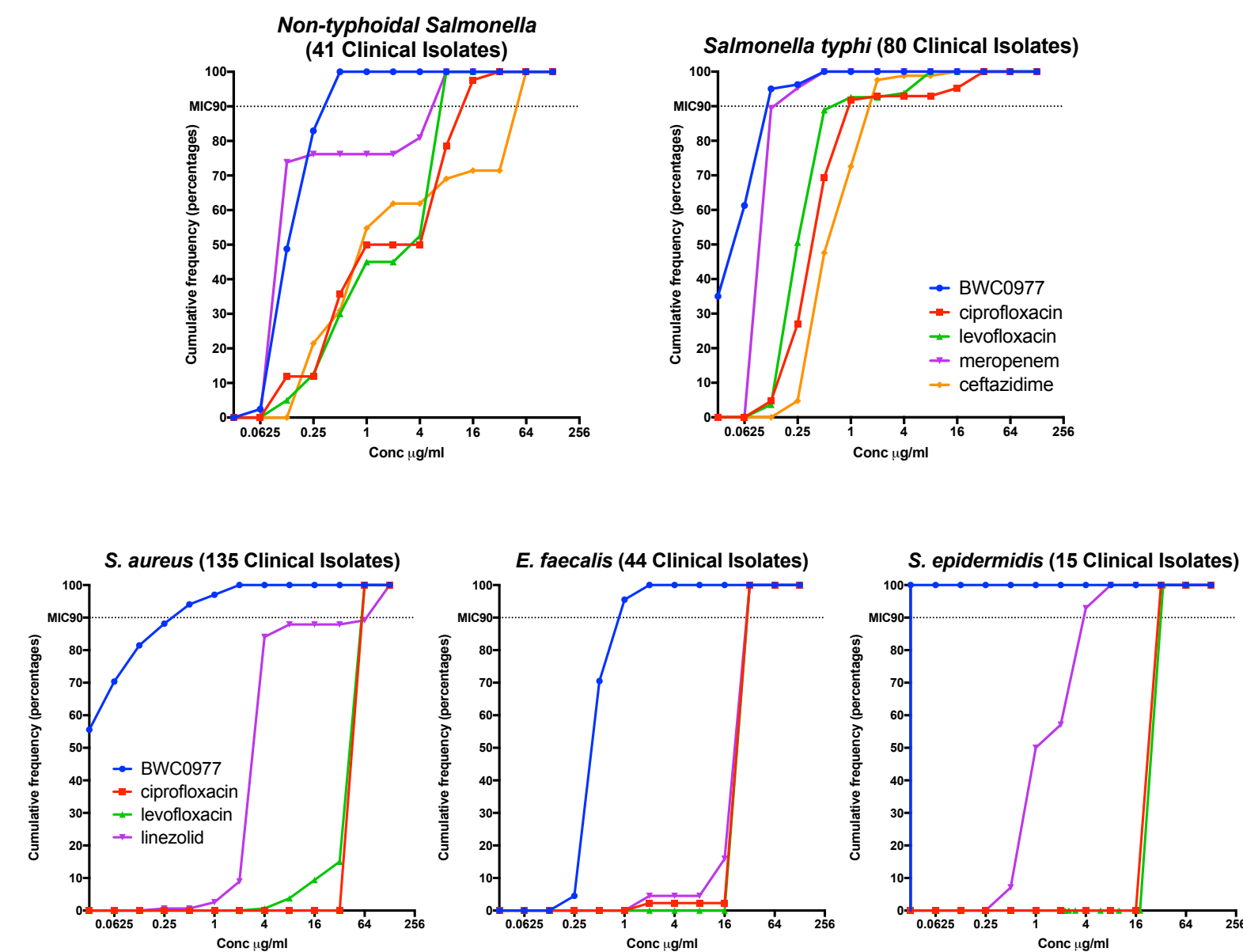
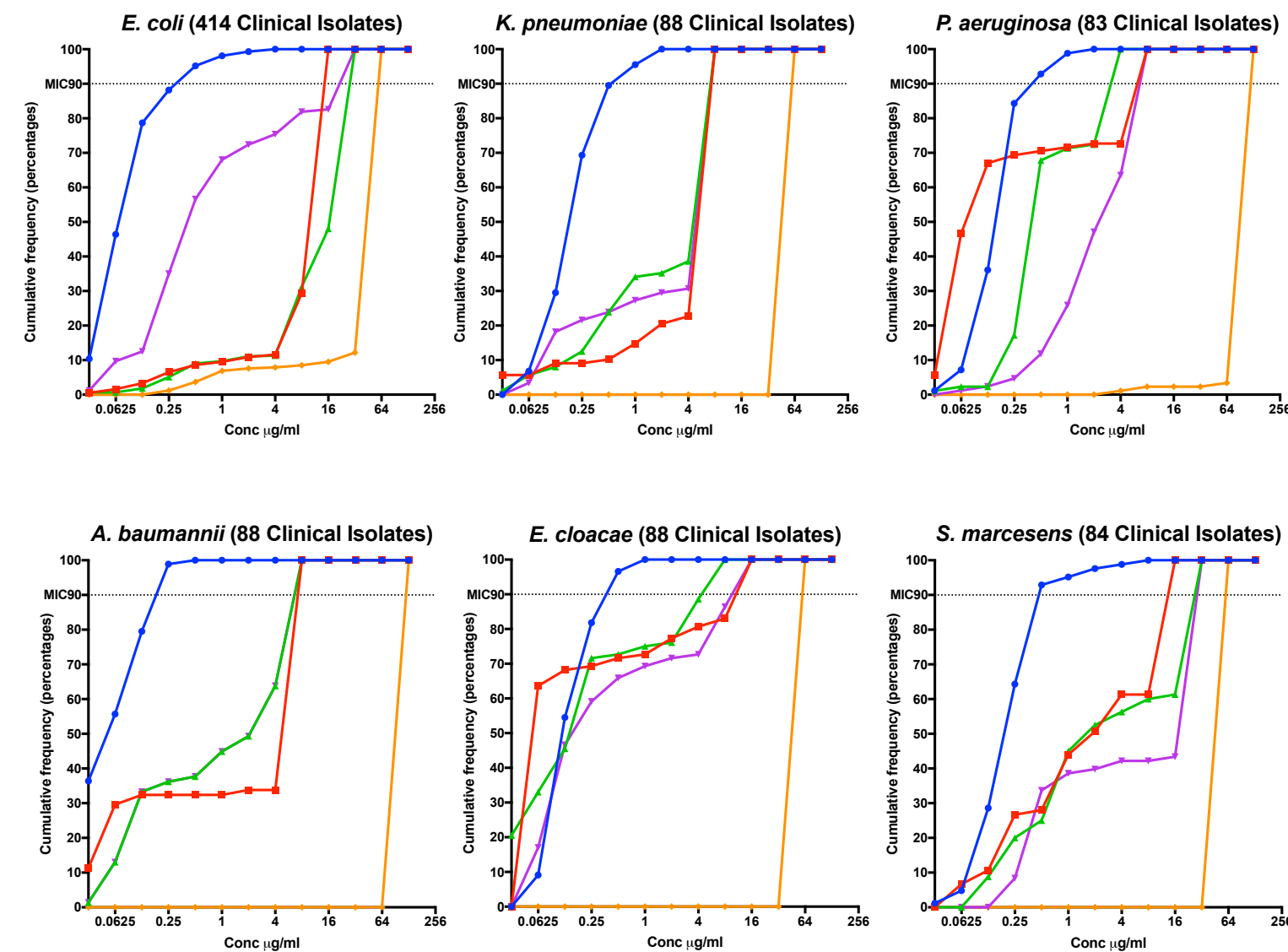
The results demonstrated two key findings:

- potent activity of the novel drug candidate on drug sensitive and drug resistant Gram-negative pathogens such as *Acinetobacter baumannii*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Enterobacter cloacae*, *Serratia marcesens*, *Morganella morganii*, *Providencia spp.*, *Proteus spp.*, *Salmonella typhi* and non-typhoidal *Salmonella spp.*
- the extent of drug resistance is high among the recent Gram-negative clinical isolates against fluoroquinolones, 3rd gen cephalosporins, and carbapenems.

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Results



| Gram Negative | Organism | N | MIC90 (mg/L) | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|------------|--------------|
| | | | BWC-0977 | Cipro-floxacin | Levo-floxacin | Mero-penem | Cefta-zidime |
| | <i>E. coli</i> | 414 | 0.25 | >8 | >8 | >8 | >8 |
| | <i>K. pneumoniae</i> | 88 | 1 | >8 | >8 | >8 | >8 |
| | <i>P. aeruginosa</i> | 83 | 0.5 | >8 | >8 | 8 | >8 |
| | <i>A. baumannii</i> | 88 | 0.25 | >8 | >8 | >8 | >8 |
| | <i>E. cloacae</i> | 88 | 0.5 | >8 | >8 | >8 | >8 |
| | <i>S. marcesens</i> | 84 | 0.5 | >8 | >8 | >8 | >8 |
| | <i>S. typhi</i> | 80 | 0.125 | 1 | 0.5 | 0.125 | 2 |
| | <i>NT-Salmonella</i> | 41 | 0.5 | >8 | 8 | 8 | >8 |
| | <i>Tribe Proteae</i> | 18 | 0.5 | >8 | >8 | 8 | >8 |
| Gram Positive | Organism | N | BWC-0977 | Cipro-floxacin | Levo-floxacin | Linezolid | |
| | <i>S. aureus</i> | 135 | 0.25 | >8 | >8 | 8 | |
| | <i>S. epidermidis</i> | 15 | 0.03 | >8 | >8 | 4 | |
| | <i>E. faecalis</i> | 44 | 1 | >8 | >8 | >8 | |
| | | 1178 | | | | | |

Conclusion

The current investigation gives an overview of the AMR scenario and the potency of a novel drug candidate effective against the multi-drug resistant pathogens. These encouraging results clearly open up the opportunity of delivering a novel antibacterial drug for the treatment of Gram negative infections after five decades.

References

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- CLSI. M100Ed28E. *Performance standards for antimicrobial susceptibility testing: 28th informational supplement*. Wayne, PA, Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute, 2018.