

Web Site News October 2011: Problem brought to light by NEQAS

Change to the zone diameter breakpoints for *Pseudomonas* spp. versus amikacin

Approximately 25% of laboratories using the BSAC disc diffusion test recently reported a NEQAS specimen (0365, distribution 2843) as falsely susceptible to amikacin. In collaboration with NEQAS the BSAC has reviewed current data and the following changes have been made to the zone diameter breakpoints:

Table 8. MIC and zone diameter breakpoints for *Pseudomonas* spp.

Table 8. MIC and zone diameter breakpoints for <i>Pseudomonas</i> spp.								
Antibiotic	MIC breakpoint (mg/L)			Disc content (µg)	Interpretation of zone diameters (mm)			Comment
	R >	I	S ≤		R ≤	I	S ≥	
Aminoglycosides								
Amikacin	16	16	8	30	15	16-18	19	Recommendations 10.2 May 2011
Amikacin	16	16	8	30	15	16-21	22	Amended zone diameter BPs October 2011