



Pseudomonas aeruginosa Resistance to Beta-lactams

Note: Chart is meant as a general teaching tool for common and advanced mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Resistance in *P. aeruginosa* is complex and various mechanisms may be simultaneously present, impacting *in vitro* activity of each agent.

Minimally impacted by AMR mechanism
 Heavily impacted by AMR mechanism **R**=Resistant
 Some AMR impact Possible association

Standard Agents

MDR Agents

	Porin Channels	Efflux Pumps	AmpC	Carbapenemases <small>Minor AMR contributor</small>
Ceftazidime	↑ MIC Loss of OprF	↑ MIC or R Upregulated MexAB-OprM		
Cefepime	↑ MIC Loss of OprF	↑ MIC or R Upregulated MexAB-OprM, MexXY-OprM, MexCD-OprJ	↑ MIC or R Overexpression	
Piperacillin-Tazobactam	↑ MIC Loss of OprF	↑ MIC or R Upregulated MexAB-OprM		
Imipenem	R Loss of OprD		↑ MIC Overexpression	
Meropenem	↑ MIC Loss of OprD	↑ MIC or R Upregulated MexAB-OprM & MexXY-OprM		
Ceftazidime-Avibactam	↑ MIC Loss of OprF	↑ MIC or R Upregulated MexAB-OprM	↑ MIC or R AmpC mutants	Inhibits some carbapenemases rarely found in PsA, does not inhibit MBL
Ceftolozane-Tazobactam			↑ MIC or R AmpC mutants	
Imipenem-Relebactam		↑ MIC or R (Relebactam only) Upregulated MexAB-OprM & MexEF-OprN		Inhibits some carbapenemases rarely found in PsA, does not inhibit MBL
Meropenem-Vaborbactam	↑ MIC Loss of OprD	↑ MIC or R Upregulated MexAB-OprM & MexXY-OprM		Inhibits some carbapenemases rarely found in PsA, does not inhibit MBL
Cefiderocol	↑ MIC Mutation of Iron Transport system		↑ MIC or R AmpC mutants	Active vs KPC, MBL, GES ↑ MIC for NDM

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

Mechanisms of Resistance

mexAB-oprM

Efflux pumps: β -lactams and aminoglycosides most affected

- *mexR* repressor gene mutation increases expression of *mexAB-oprM* (cefepime, ceftazidime, piperacillin, and meropenem)
- Relebactam less likely to be effluxed than avibactam
- *mexXY* induction of aminoglycoside resistance

Porin channel mutations:

- *oprD*: carbapenems (imipenem > meropenem)
- *oprF*: low-level, broad β -lactam effect

Beta-lactamases:

- *ampC*: can hydrolyze most antipseudomonal β -lactams
 - Over expression is a major mechanism of resistance for piperacillin-tazobactam and ceftazidime
 - Mutations in the catalytic center of *ampC* can lead to ceftolozane-tazobactam and ceftazidime-avibactam resistance
 - Induced by: imipenem, piperacillin, and tazobactam
 - Inhibited by: avibactam, relebactam
- **KPC, GES, metallo- β -lactamases:** less common but heavily dependent on geographic region

Penicillin binding protein site mutations:

- Less common than other resistance mechanisms.
 - **PBP3** increases MIC to cefepime, aztreonam, and meropenem
 - **PBP4** major *ampC* regulator, mutation causes *ampC* overexpression
 - **PBP5** most common PBP, can function as a β -lactamase enzyme

Takeaway:

- Local epidemiology is important for predicting resistance mechanisms in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*
- Knowledge of underlying resistance mechanisms is important for determining optimal treatment

Featured Speakers: Maggie Monogue, PharmD and Antonio Oliver, MD

Host: Erin McCreary, PharmD

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