

***Mycoplasma genitalium*: epidemiology, diagnostics and antimicrobial resistance**

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Déclaration d'intérêts de 2012 à 2015

Investigateur principal d'une recherche ou d'une étude clinique :

- Roche Diagnostics,
- Diagenode,
- Hologic,
- SpeeDx

Mycoplasma genitalium

- **1980: *Mycoplasma genitalium* isolated from 2 of 13 men with nongonococcal urethritis (NGU)**
 - Mollicutes class: no cell wall
 - Very slow growth (>50 days)
 - Very few isolates available
 - Animal model in chimpanzees



Tully, Int J Syst Bacteriol 1983

- **1990's: development of PCR assays, allowed study of disease association**
- **1995: smallest genome known (580 kbp, \approx 480 genes)**
 - The 2nd bacterial genome fully sequenced (Himmelreich, 1995)
 - Minimal requirements of life, concept of minimal cell

M. genitalium: prevalence and incidence

- **Prevalence**

- **Community-based populations 1–3%**
Carriage may be asymptomatic
- **STI testing centers populations (high risk) 4 – 38%**

- **Incidence**

- **University women: 0.9 per 100 WY**
- **Kenyan female sex workers: 23 per 100 WY**

Anderson Sex Transm Infect 2007; Baczynska Syst Biol Reprod Med 2008; Cohen Sex Transm Dis 2007; Jensen J Eur Acad Dermatol 2013; Manhart Am J Public Health 2007; Clin Infect Dis 2011; Oakeshott Clin Infect Dis 2010; Peuchant Diagn Microbiol Infect Dis 2015; Svenstrup BMJ Open 2014; Walker Clin Infect Dis 2013

***M. genitalium*: disease association**

Men	Women
NGU	Urethritis
Balanoposthitis	Cervicitis
Epididymitis Prostatitis	Endometritis, Salpingitis (PID)
Proctitis (MSM)	Adverse pregnancy outcomes
	Female infertility
	Increased HIV transmission

Association between *M. genitalium* and male NGU (1)

- Responsible for 15-20% NGU (pooled OR 5.5),
20-25% NCNGU,
30% persistent-recurrent U
- 2nd cause of NGU after *Chlamydia trachomatis*
- Coinfection with *C. trachomatis* not uncommon
- 2015 Updated CDC STD guidelines, 2016 European guideline on NGU, 2016 European guideline on *M. genitalium* infection: role of Mg in urethritis and treatment-related implications

Taylor-Robinson, Jensen Clin Microbiol Rev 2011; Manhart Clin Infect Dis 2011; Mena J Infect Dis 2012;
www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/;

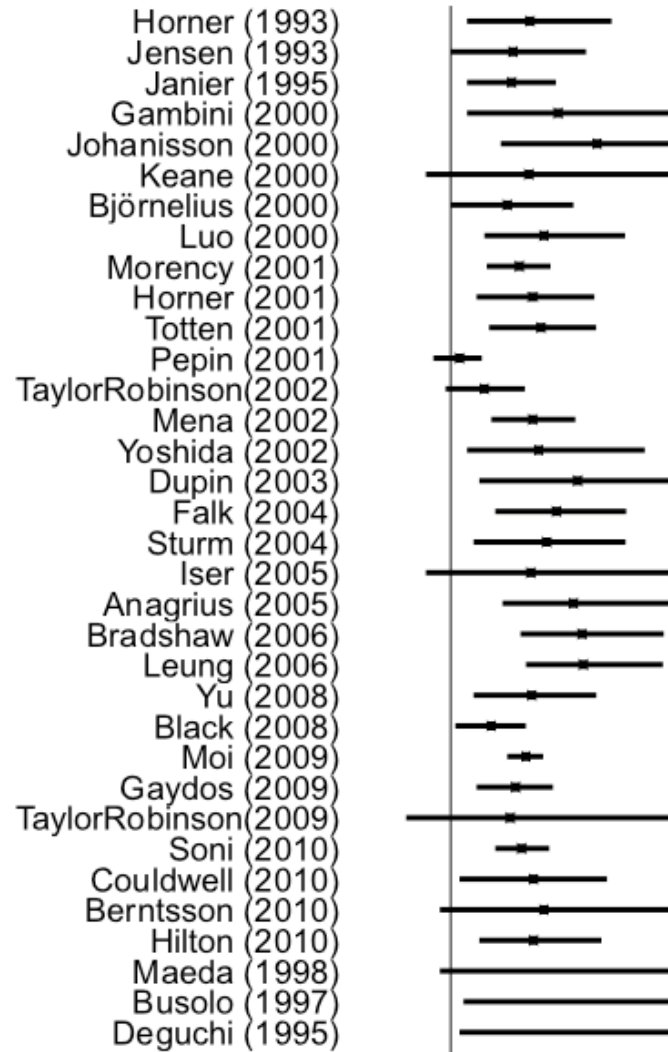
<http://www.iusti.org/regions/europe/pdf/2016/2016EuropeanMycoplasmaGuidelines.pdf>

<http://www.iusti.org/regions/europe/pdf/2016/2016EuropeanNGUGuideline.pdf> (*Int J STD AIDS 2016, Eurosurveillance 2016*)

Association between *M. genitalium* and male NGU (2)

Male Urethritis

Odds Ratio (95% CI)



0.01 0.1 1 10

Odds Ratio (log scale)

Cazanave et al, Med Mal Infect 2012
Manhart et al, Clin Infect Dis 2011

Association between *M. genitalium* and female reproductive tract disease (1)

- Fewer studies than in men, small sample sizes
- Commonly asymptomatic
- Mg detected in 10-30% clinical cervicitis, 2-22% PID
- **Similar to *C. trachomatis*:** Mg can cause PID (proportion of cases unknown), but less frequently than with *C. trachomatis*
- **Adverse pregnancy outcomes and female infertility:** more research needed
- **2015 Updated CDC STD guidelines, 2016 European guideline on *M. genitalium* infection:** role of Mg in cervicitis and treatment-related implications

Taylor-Robinson and Jensen, *Clin Microbiol Rev* 2011; Manhart et al, *Clin Infect Dis* 2011; McGowan et al, *PLoS Pathog* 2011, Lis et al, *Clin Infect Dis* 2015; www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015
<http://www.iusti.org/regions/europe/pdf/2016/2016EuropeanMycoplasmaGuidelines.pdf>

Association between *M. genitalium* and female disease (2)

Metanalysis 1980-2014

(Lis et al, *Clin Infect Dis* 2015, 61:418, PMID: 26042815)

- *M. genitalium* infection significantly associated with approximately 2-fold increased risk of:
 - Cervicitis (20 included studies): pooled OR, 1.66
 - PID (10 studies): pooled OR, 2.14
 - Pre-term birth (6 studies): pooled OR 1.89
 - Spontaneous abortion (3 studies): pooled OR 1.82
- Elevated risk of female infertility
 - 5 included studies, risk about 2.5-fold
 - Only statistically significant in subanalyses

Diagnosis of *M. genitalium* infections (1)

- **Only a direct diagnosis**, no serology kit commercialized
- **Culture extremely fastidious** (very few strains isolated worldwide, coculture with Vero cells)
- **By nucleic acid amplification tests:**
 - A lot of in-house PCRs, real-time PCR ++, TMA
 - MgpA adhesin gene, 16S rRNA
 - Monoplex and multiplex tests commercialized, some CE-marked, no FDA-approved (RUO tests)
 - Load very low even in symptomatic infections
 - Some specimens better than others:
 - FVU > urethral swabs in men
 - vaginal swabs > cervix > FVU in women

Commercially available mono and multiplex NAATs for *M. genitalium*

Manufacturer	Kit	Technique	Pathogens targeted
Diagenode	S-DIAMGTV	qPCR	<i>M. genitalium</i> , <i>Trichomonas vaginalis</i>
Fast-track Diagnostics	Several kits	qPCR	<i>M. genitalium</i> and several STI pathogens and urogenital mycoplasmas
Hologic	<i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i> Aptima assay	TMA	<i>M. genitalium</i>
Roche/TIB MolBiol	LightMix <i>Mycoplasma genitalium</i>	qPCR	<i>M. genitalium</i>
Sacace	Several kits	qPCR	<i>M. genitalium</i> alone or multiplexed with several STI pathogens and/or urogenital mycoplasmas
Seegene	Several kits	qPCR	<i>M. genitalium</i> and several STI pathogens and urogenital mycoplasmas

Diagnosis of *M. genitalium* infections (2)

- **Barriers for Mg testing:**

- No reimbursement
- Lack of validated commercial assays
- Low throughput in commercial available assays
- Test diagn. performance varies significantly between labs

⇒ **Need for quality assessment**

⇒ **Diagnostic activity is predicted to increase**

Diagnosis of *M. genitalium* infections (3)

- **Indications for Mg testing:**

- Symptoms**

- Risk factors**

- Symptoms in a regular sexual partner
 - Persons with high-risk sexual behavior (<40 yo, >3 new sexual contacts, >5 life-time partners)
 - Sexual contact of persons with STI or PID, Mg-infected persons
 - Before termination of pregnancy or other procedures, that break the cervical barrier
 - Regular testing of MSM including anal sampling (role of Mg in increased HIV transmission risk)

<http://www.iusti.org/regions/europe/pdf/2016/2016EuropeanMycoplasmaGuidelines.pdf>

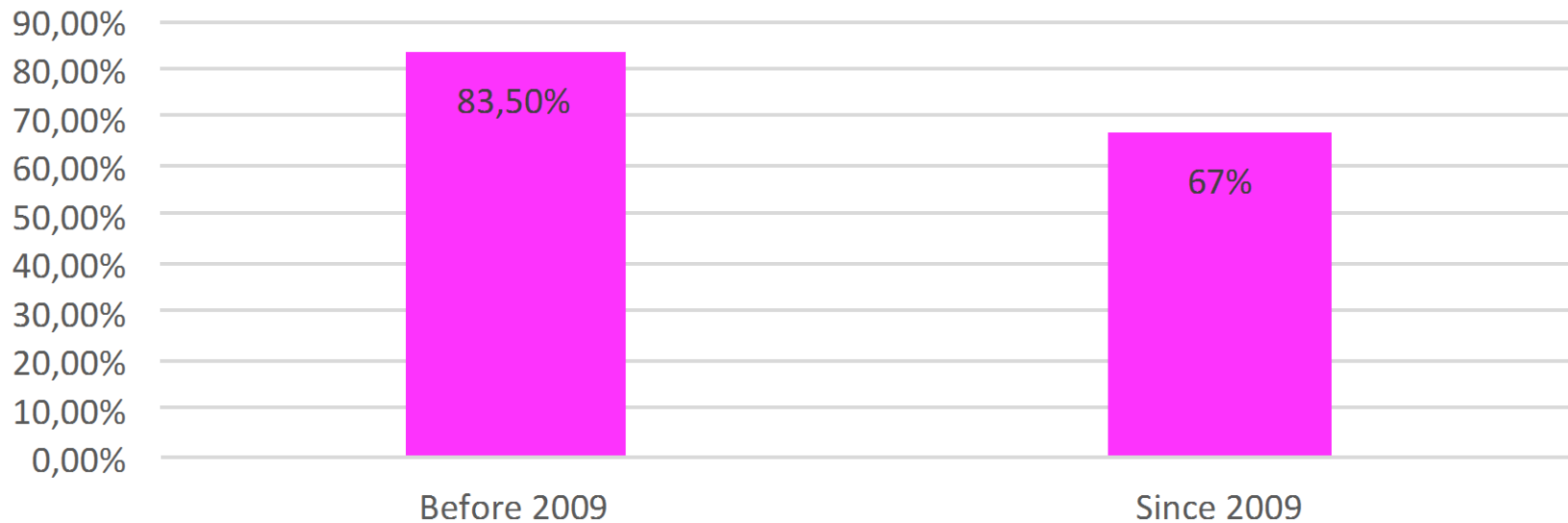
M. genitalium and antibiotics

- **Intrinsic resistance related to** β -lactams +++, fosfomicin, glycopeptides and rifampicin
- **Active antibiotics *in vitro***
 - Macrolides, lincosamides, streptogramins, ketolides (MLSK), tetracyclines, fluoroquinolones
 - **Early *in vitro* Mg studies:**
 - highly S to macrolides (azithromycin, AZM),
 - reduced S to tetracyclines and older fluoroquinolones (CIP, OFX)
- **No antimicrobial susceptibility testing done in routine**
- **Acquired resistance**
 - **Genetic support:** chromosomal mutations ++
 - **Target modification**

M. genitalium treatment studies

- Most male NGU studies
- Tetracyclines not useful, effective in only 30-40% (no acquired R)
AZM 1g single dose = 1st line treatment

Efficacy of azithromycin against
M.genitalium declines



Pooled microbial cure rate from meta-analysis of 21 studies (n=1,490)

M. genitalium treatment studies

- Most male NGU studies
- Tetracyclines not useful, effective in only 30-40% (no acquired resistance)
AZM 1g single dose = 1st line treatment
- Metanalysis on the efficacy of AZM for Mg treatment
(Lau Clin Infect Dis 2015)

⇒ Declining treatment efficacy of AZM 1g for the treatment of urogenital *M. genitalium*



⇒ Why? Increasing prevalence of macrolide resistance due to widespread use of AZM 1g single dose

Macrolide resistance in *M. genitalium* (1)

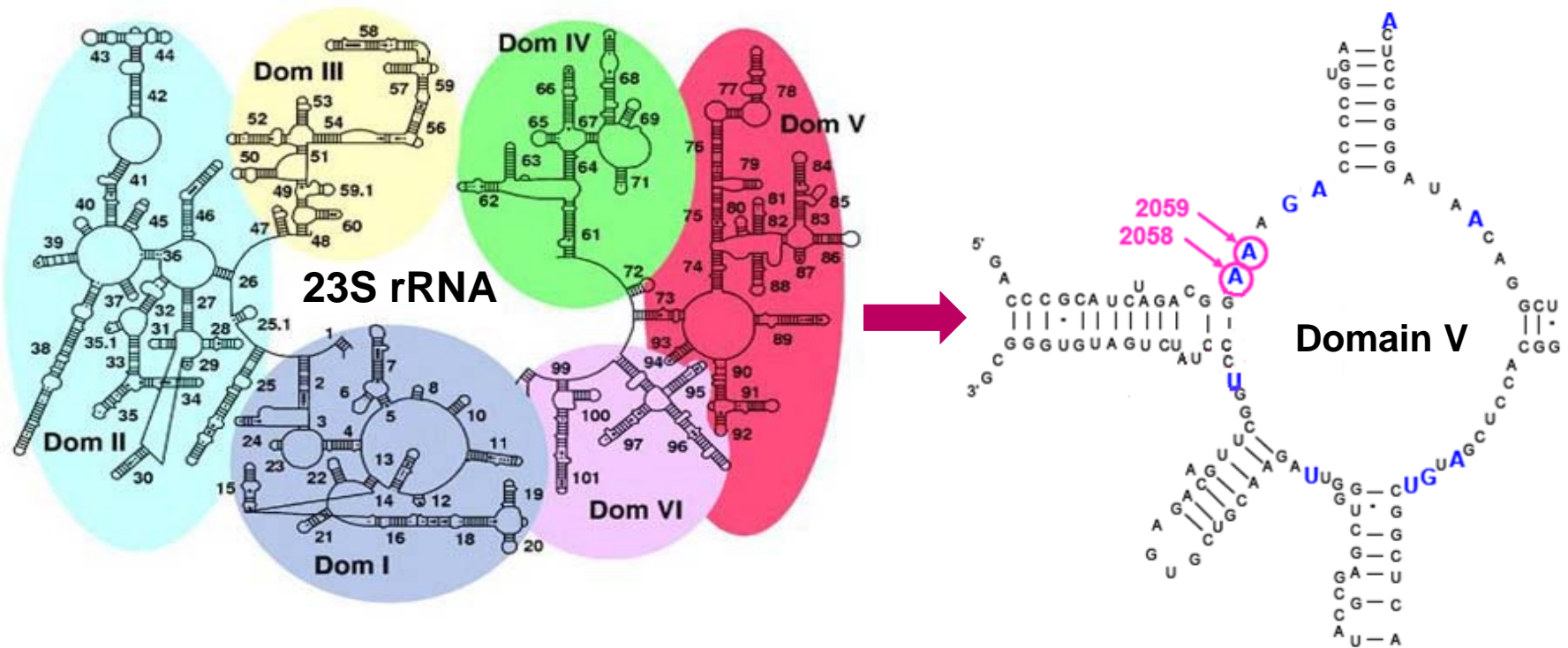
- Mutations in domain V of 23S rRNA

- A2058G/C, A2059G (*E. coli* numbering)

- AZM 1g single dose

- ➔ Selection of resistant mutants during AZM treatment

- ➔ Therapeutic failure if patient infected with a mutated strain



Macrolide resistance in *M. genitalium* (2)

- **Extended 1.5 g AZM (500 mg d1, 250 mg d2-4) 85-95% effective and associated with lower risk of inducing AZM R**

Anagnius PLoS One 2013, Bjornelius Sex Transm Infect 2008

- **Patients failing azithromycin 1g single dose cannot be treated successfully with extended 1.5 g AZM**

Jernberg Sex Transm Infect 2008, Jensen Clin Infect 2009

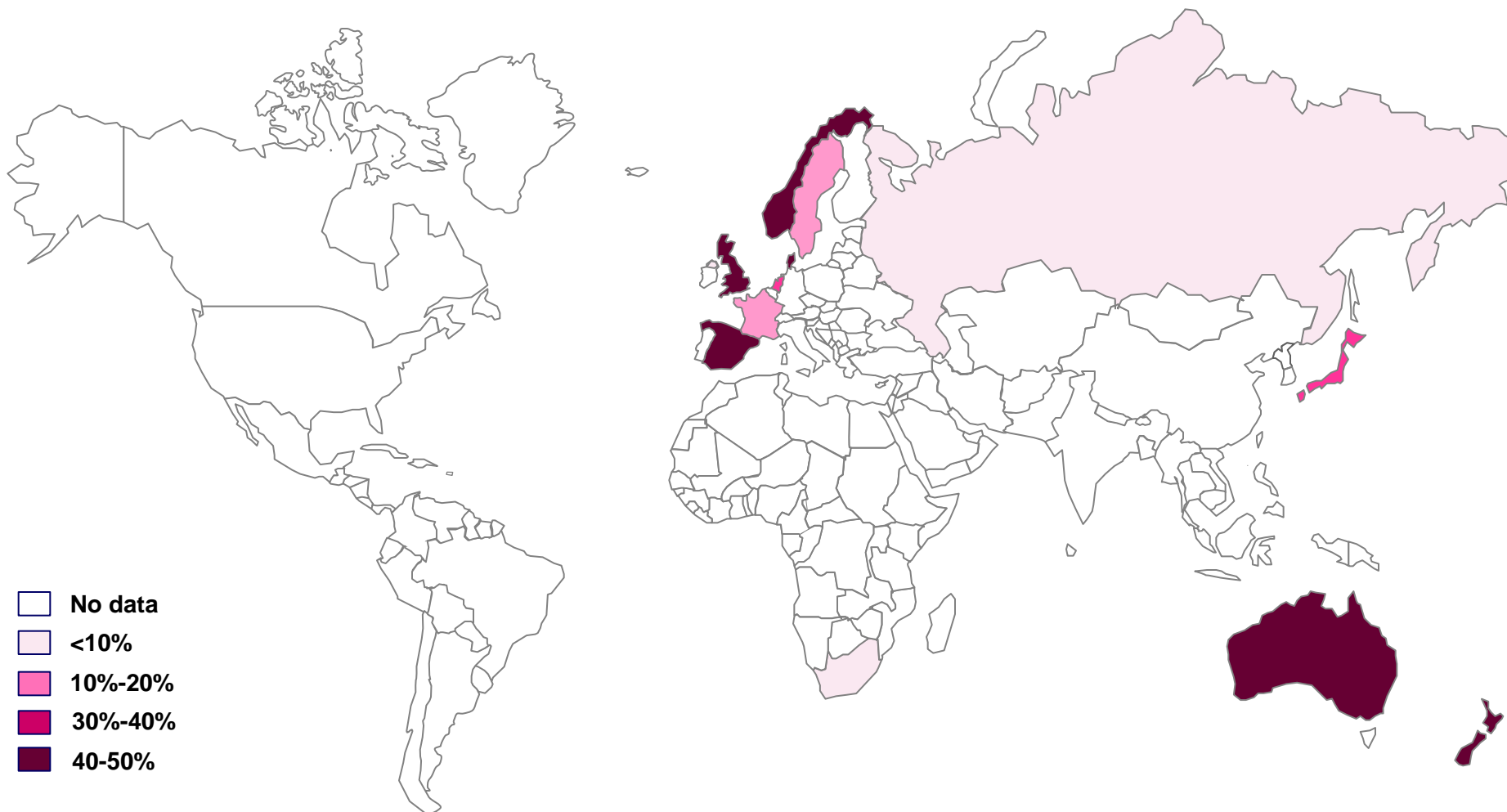
- **Macrolide resistance since 2005 in Australia, New-Zealand, Japan, Scandinavia, The Netherlands, France, Spain, Russia, South Africa**

France: 17.2% of specimens (2013-2014)

Denmark, UK: ≈ 40%...Greenland 100%!!

Bradshaw Emerg Infect Dis 2006, Bissessor Clin Infect Dis 2015, Chrisment J Antimicrob Chemother 2012, Hay Sex Transm Dis 2015, Gesink Int J Circumpolar Health 2012, Gushin BMC Infect Dis 2015, Le Roy Emerg Infect Dis 2016, Nijhuis J Antimicrob Chemother 2015, Pond Clin Infect Dis 2014, Shimada Emerg Infect Dis 2011, Touati J Clin Microbiol 2014, Salado-Rasmussen Clin Infect Dis 2014, Yew J Clin Microbiol 2011

Frequency of macrolide resistance in *M. genitalium*



Fluoroquinolone resistance in *M. genitalium*

- **Moxifloxacin 400 mg for 7-10 d in case of AZM failure but...**

www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015;

<http://www.iusti.org/regions/europe/pdf/2016/2016EuropeanMycoplasmaGuidelines.pdf>

<http://www.iusti.org/regions/europe/pdf/2016/2016EuropeanNGUGuideline.pdf> (*Int J STD AIDS, Eurosurveillance* 2016)

- **Emerging MXF resistance with few MXF-R isolates and failures described in Australia, Japan, Scandinavia and Europe:**

- **Australia and Japan:** prevalence ranges from 10-47% between 2006 and 2014
- **France:** prevalence of 7% in 2013-2014
- **UK:** prevalence of 4.5% in 2011

Bissessor Clin Infect Dis 2015, Bradshaw PLoS One 2008; Deguchi, Emerg Infect Dis 2015; Jernberg Sex Transm Infect 2008, Jensen BMC Infect Dis 2015; Kikuchi J Antimicrob Chemother 2014; Le Roy Emerg Infect Dis 2016; Pond Clin Infect Dis 2014; Shimada Int J Antimicrob agents 2010; Tagg J Clin Microbiol 2013

- **Mutations in the bacterial target genes of fluoroquinolones**

- Most frequent mutations in *parC*
- A few mutations in *gyrA*

Molecular diagnosis of *M. genitalium* antibiotic resistance

•Molecular detection of macrolide resistance

- Sanger sequencing, SNP detection using pyrosequencing, qPCR (FRET or TaqMan probes)
- In-house and commercial assays (Speedx)
- Simultaneous detection of Mg and macrolide resistance directly from specimens -> treatment to be adjusted

•Molecular detection of fluoroquinolone resistance

- amplification and sequencing of the gene targets (*parC+++*)

Jensen Clin Infect Dis 2014; Twin PLoS one 2012; Manhart Clin Infect Dis 2014; LE Roy Emerg Infect Dis 2016; Pond Clin Infect Dis 2014, Salado-Rasmussen Clin Infect Dis 2014; Shimada, Int J antimicrob Agents 210; Touati J Clin Microbiol 2014

Conclusion

- ***M. genitalium*, a STI pathogen, has emerged!!**
An accepted cause of male NGU and female cervicitis,
Significant association with PID
- **Diagnostic activity is predicted to increase (commercially available NAAT tests):** testing Mg on symptomatic patients and patients with high STI risk behavior
- **Increasing prevalence of macrolide resistance ⇒ Decreasing efficacy of AZM monotherapy**
- **2nd line treatment with MXF ...under pressure**

⇒ **Need to detect Mg and macrolide resistance in the same time (implementation of molecular diagnostic tests):**
change from syndromic to etiologic treatment

⇒ **Need for trials of combinations of registered drugs and new antimicrobial compounds**

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