

Thesis Title Imipenem-Resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* Infections;
Risk Factors, Treatment Outcomes and In Vitro Susceptibility to
Antipseudomonal Agents
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Abstract

Ninety eight isolates of imipenem-resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were collected from 4 regional hospitals and an university hospital during October 2002-March 2003. The majority (77.6%) of these isolates was from sputum. The rank order of in vitro susceptibility was colistin (100%) > netilmicin (62.3%) > ciprofloxacin (54.1%) > cefoperazone-sulbactam (44.9%) > ceftazidime (14.3%) > meropenem (13.3%). The MIC₉₀ of imipenem, colistin, netilmicin, ciprofloxacin, meropenem, ceftazidime and cefoperazone-sulbactam were >32, 2, >256, >32, >32, >256 and 128 mcg/ml, respectively. Clinical data of 50 patients with imipenem-resistant *P. aeruginosa* (case) were compared to those with imipenem-susceptible *P. aeruginosa* (control) by nested case control study design. Their sites of infection were respiratory tract. The risk factor for imipenem-resistant *P. aeruginosa* infection in this study was the previous imipenem administration (adjusted odds ratio, 3.172; 95 % CI, 1.312-7.666, *P* = 0.010) . The mortality rate, failure clinical outcome and persisted microbiological outcome at the end of the treatment and duration of admission after infection were not statistically different among patients infected by imipenem-resistant and imipenem-susceptible *P. aeruginosa* with or without coinfection. Most of antibiotics selected for treatment imipenem-resistant *P. aeruginosa* infection were consistent with each hospital susceptibility report. Among these antibiotics, cefoperazone-sulbactam was the most frequent antibiotics (41.7 %) selected by physicians to treat imipenem-resistant *P. aeruginosa* infections.