

Antimicrobial agents for CSF isolates of *Haemophilus influenzae*

Explanation of the choice of antimicrobial agents tested and reported for CSF isolates of *Haemophilus influenzae*:

Question:

What antimicrobial agents should be reported when testing a CSF isolate of Haemophilus influenzae?

<i>Ampicillin</i>	<i>A fluoroquinolone</i>	<i>Azithromycin</i>
<i>Meropenem</i>	<i>A 3rd generation cephalosporin</i>	<i>Tetracycline</i>
<i>Chloramphenicol</i>	<i>Clindamycin</i>	

Discussion:

Although all of the following antimicrobial agents are suggested as Group A and Group B by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) for *Haemophilus* spp. :

Ampicillin, Trimethoprim sulfamethoxazole, Ampicillin-sulbactam, Cefuroxime, Cefotaxime, Ceftazidime, or Ceftriaxone, Chloramphenicol, and Meropenem ¹,

the following specific information is provided in the CLSI guidelines for *Haemophilus influenzae* isolated from Cerebral Spinal Fluid:

“Warning”: The following antimicrobial agents should not be routinely reported for bacteria isolated from CSF. These antimicrobial agents are not the drugs of choice and may not be effective for treating CSF infections caused by these organisms.²

<i>Clindamycin</i>	<i>Macrolides</i>	<i>Tetracyclines</i>
<i>Fluoroquinolones</i>	<i>Oral agents</i>	<i>1st & 2nd generation cephalosporins</i>

For isolates of Haemophilus influenzae from CSF, only results of testing with Ampicillin, one of the third-generation Cephalosporins, Chloramphenicol, and Meropenem should be reported routinely.³

Answer:

Ampicillin, a third-generation Cephalosporins, Chloramphenicol, and Meropenem.

¹CLSI M100-S19, Table 1A: Suggested Groupings of Antimicrobial Agents, Pg 32

²CLSI M100-S19, Table 1A: Suggested Groupings of Antimicrobial Agents, Pg 33

³CLSI M100-S19, Table 2E: Zone Diameter and MIC Interpretive Standards for *Haemophilus*, Pg 64