

## Eikenella spp (LTR79363)

Edit Approved By: Dragan, Tatiana (07/25/2023)

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**Organism**                      **Eikenella corrodens**

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**Clinical**                      This organism is part of the normal flora of the oropharynx and gastrointestinal tract. It is associated with skin/soft tissue infections (often polymicrobial), especially human bite wounds. Septic arthritis and osteomyelitis may occasionally complicate these infections. *E. corrodens* has also been associated with pneumonia, empyema, ophthalmic infections, post-surgical wound infections, meningitis, brain abscesses, endocarditis, visceral abscesses, chorioamnionitis and septicaemia. Intravenous drug users are at risk of endocarditis with this organism.

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**Usual susceptibility pattern**                      *E. corrodens* is resistant to clindamycin, erythromycin, cloxacillin, first generation cephalosporins, vancomycin and metronidazole. It is often resistant to aminoglycosides. It is usually susceptible to third generation cephalosporins, quinolones, tetracycline, chloramphenicol, and TMP-SMX (rare resistance to tetracycline and TMP-SMX has been reported). Although most strains are susceptible to penicillin and ampicillin, there have been several reports of beta-lactamase mediated resistance (they remain susceptible to amoxicillin/clavulanate).

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**Susceptibility method**                      Etest method using Laked blood agar incubated in 5% CO<sub>2</sub> at 35° C for 24-72 hours.

**Note:** For Etest use 1.0 McFarland suspension (from 48-72 hour colonies) in broth.

## Eikenella spp., Continued

### Susceptibility reporting

	CSF/ Brain	Blood/ Sterile Body Site	Other (see note)	Comments
β-lactamase	*	*	*	Test but do not report
Amoxicillin/ clavulanate			✓	
Ampicillin	✓	✓	✓	If β-lactamase positive – report amp R
Cefotaxime	✓	✓	2	Report if patient <1 month instead of ceftriaxone 2 <sup>nd</sup> line if amp I/R
Ceftriaxone	✓	✓	2	Do not report if patient ≤1 month 2 <sup>nd</sup> line if amp I/R
Ciprofloxacin		✓	✓	Do not report in patients < 18 y
Tetracycline			✓	Do not report in patients < 8 y

### Note

**For wound specimens** if *Eikenella* sp. isolated with other organisms, susceptibility testing is not generally required. Consult Supervisor

If beta lactamase negative and SOP says to report susceptibility, add comment:

“This organism is usually susceptible to ampicillin, extended spectrum cephalosporins, quinolones, tetracyclines and trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole. It is resistant to clindamycin and first generation cephalosporins.” **&A226**

If patient < 8 y with severe beta-lactam allergy azithromycin may be considered.

### Interpretation

For Etest, report actual MIC result. For interpretation (S, I, or R) report according to the nearest higher doubling dilution (**Appendix 1**).

Use **CLSI** interpretive document for **HACEK group**.