

# Evaluation of a new lateral flow assay for the detection of OXA-23-producing bacteria

P. Bogaerts, S. Evrard, W. Bouchahrouf, M. Hoebeke, C. Berhin, T.-D. Huang, and Y. Glupczynski

National Reference Center for Antimicrobial Resistance in Gram-Negative Bacteria, CHU UCL Namur

Mailing address: Pierre Bogaerts  
Laboratory of Microbiology,  
CHU Dinant-Codinne (UCL, Namur),  
1 Avenue Dr. G. Therasse, 5530 Yvoir, Belgium  
Email: pierre.bogaerts@udouvain.be

## Introduction & Objectives

- Rapid detection of OXA-carbapenemase in *Acinetobacter* spp. is essential for early appropriate infection control purposes.
- Currently available colorimetric hydrolysis based tests such as Carba NP seems less suited for the detection of the OXA-carbapenemases specific to *Acinetobacter*.<sup>1</sup>
- Lateral flow immunochromatographic assays (ICAs; for direct confirmation of OXA-48-like, KPC, VIM, IMP and NDM carbapenemases are available on the market. (Coris bioConcept and NG Biotech).<sup>2-3</sup>
- Here we have evaluated a **new OXA-23 detecting ICA developed by Coris bioConcept (Gembloux, Belgium)**.

## Methods

- Bacterial strains:** A retrospective evaluation was performed against a collection of **252 *Acinetobacter* spp.** (*A. baumannii* [n=208], *A. pittii* [n=19], other *Acinetobacter* spp. [n=18]) with well characterized resistance mechanisms to  $\beta$ -lactam agents. The collection comprises **143 OXA-23-like producers**, **25 OXA-24-like producers**, **32 OXA-58 producers**, **1 OXA-143**. The collection also includes one class A carbapenemase (GES-14), 17 metallo-beta-lactamase (NDM [n=13], VIM [n=1] and IMP [n=3]) and **45 non-carbapenemase producers** (Table). All isolates in the collection panel had been previously characterized for the presence of beta-lactamases genes by using PCR/sequencing as previously described (and used as reference gold standard).<sup>4</sup>
- Reading and data recording:** The **OXA-23 K-SeT** assay is a lateral flow assay commercialized by Coris BioConcept (Gembloux, Belgium) for the detection of OXA-23-like. For this study, the strains to be tested were grown on **5% sheep blood trypticase soy agar** bioMérieux, Marcy l'Etoile, France) for 16–24 h at 37°C. The tests were performed according to the **manufacturer's recommendations (Fig. 1)**. The results were interpreted by **2 independent technologists** and the **time of apparition** of the band corresponding to **OXA-23** was recorded by the first technologist.
- Performance analysis:** Sensitivity and specificity of the OXA-23 ICA was determined by **comparing to the results of multiplex PCR-sequencing** targeting carbapenemase on all tested strains.

Fig 1. Operating procedures of VIM K-SeT is identical to the procedure of OXA-48 K-SeT (Coris BioConcept)



## Results

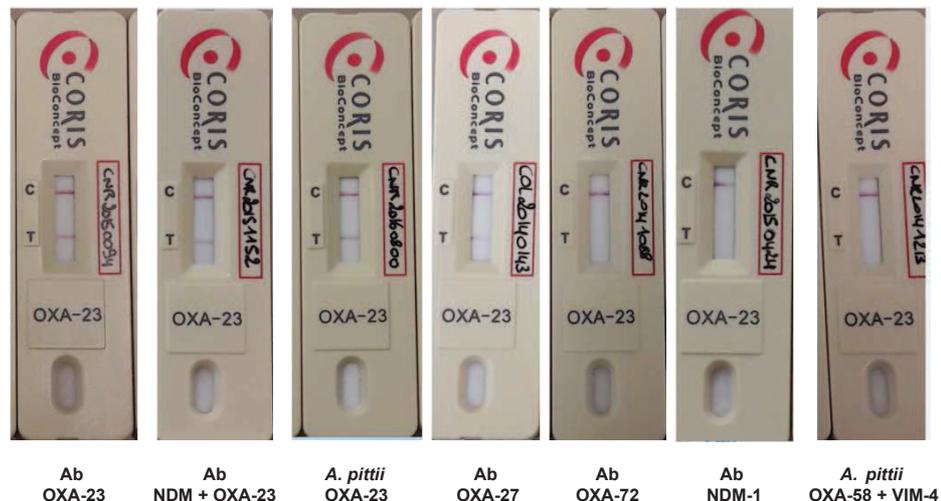
- On **252 *Acinetobacter* spp.**, the assay performed **100 % sensitivity (CI95: 96.7-100 %)** and **100 % specificity (CI 95: 96.2-100 %)** using PCR as comparator
- For *Acinetobacter* spp. the **time to positive results** varied from **0.5 to 5.5 minutes** (mean: 1.25 min +/- 0.62 min; median: 1.20)
- OXA-23 variants like **OXA-27 are also well detected** while OXA-24 (OXA-72, OXA-255) and OXA-58 are not

Table Species and carbapenemase variants evaluated with the OXA-23 K-SeT®. *A. spp.* includes *A. baumannii*, *A. pittii* and other rarer species

Fig 2. Example of OXA-23 K-SeT® results obtained for OXA-23 producers and non-producers

Ab: *Acinetobacter baumannii*

| Species                | Carbapenemase        | N° of isolates | OXA-23 K-SeT | Time to signal (Min) |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| Class D OXA-23-like    |                      |                |              |                      |
| <i>A. spp.</i>         | OXA-23               | 129            | +            | 0.5 to 5.5           |
| <i>A. baumannii</i>    | OXA-27 (OXA-23 like) | 1              | +            | 1.5                  |
| Class D + D            |                      |                |              |                      |
| <i>A. baumannii</i>    | OXA-58 + OXA-23      | 1              | +            | 1                    |
| <i>A. haemolyticus</i> | OXA-58 + OXA-23      | 1              | +            | 1                    |
| Class B + D            |                      |                |              |                      |
| <i>A. baumannii</i>    | NDM-1 + OXA-23       | 2              | +            | 0.8 and 1            |
| <i>A. baumannii</i>    | NDM-2 + OXA-23       | 1              | +            | 0.8                  |



All OXA-23 non-producers presented a negative results for OXA-23 KSeT. No cross reactivity

## Conclusions

- The OXA-23-K-SeT® ICA is a **reliable** and convenient tool for direct rapid detection of OXA-23-producing *Acinetobacter* spp. This assay may be of particular interest because of the lack of efficient phenotypic confirmatory tests for detection of OXA-carbapenemases in *Acinetobacter* spp.
- Further development** for the detection of other OXA-carbapenemases (OXA-24, OXA-58, ...) found in *Acinetobacter* is needed.

## References

- Noël A et al. Comparative Evaluation of Four Phenotypic Tests for Detection of Carbapenemase-Producing Gram-Negative Bacteria. J Clin Microbiol. 2017; 55:510-518.
- Kolenda C et al. Evaluation of the new multiplex immunochromatographic O.K.N.V K-Set assay for the rapid detection of OXA-48-like, KPC, NDM and VIM carbapenemases. J Clin Microbiol 2018; 56: e01247-18.
- Hopkins KL et al. Evaluation of the NG-Test CARBA 5 multiplex immunochromatographic assay for the detection of KPC, OXA-48-like, NDM, VIM and IMP carbapenemases. J Antimicrob Chemother 2018; Epub ahead of print.
- Bogaerts P et al. Validation of carbapenemase and extended-spectrum beta-lactamase multiplex endpoint PCR assays according to ISO 15189. J Antimicrob Chemother 2013; 68: 1576-82.

## Funding and acknowledgements

- The national reference center (NRC) is partially supported by the Belgian Ministry of Social Affairs through a fund within the health insurance system. We thank all Belgian microbiologist colleagues for referring their clinical isolates to the NRC.
- This study was supported in part by a research grant from the Region Wallonne under the CWALITY convention n°1318265, project FEAR (Fighting Enterobacteriaceae Antibiotic Resistance).

