

# Effect of nebulized colistin in multidrug-resistant Gram-negative ventilator associated pneumonia

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# Introduction

- Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP) due to multidrug-resistant Gram-negative bacteria, such as certain *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella spp* and *Acinetobacter baumannii* strains, is among the most serious complications that occur in the intensive care unit (ICU) setting.

# Introduction

- Colistin (colistimethate sodium) is an antibiotic of the polymyxin family first used in 1960.
- Due to its nephrotoxicity and neurotoxicity, it has not been the drug of choice since 1980.
- However, intravenous colistin has made a recent comeback for the treatment of MDR Gram negative bacterial pneumonia.

# Introduction

- Administration of inhaled antibiotics (including colistin) as an adjunctive to intravenous antimicrobials for the prevention and treatment of nosocomial pneumonia, has been supported on the basis of comprehensive systematic reviews.

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Falagas ME, Siempos II, Bliziotis IA, Michalopoulos A. Administration of antibiotics via the respiratory tract for the prevention of ICU-acquired pneumonia: a meta-analysis of comparative trials. Crit Care 2006;10:R123.

# Introduction

- “Aerosolized antibiotics may be considered as adjunctive therapy in patients with MDR gram-negatives who are not responding to systemic therapy”.

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The American Thoracic Society and the Infectious Diseases Society of America Guideline Committee. Guidelines for the management of adults with hospital-acquired, ventilator associated, and healthcare-associated pneumonia. *Am J Respir Crit Care Med* 2005;171:388e416.

# Introduction

- Administration of inhaled anti-infective without concurrent intravenous antimicrobials is primarily indicated for cystic fibrosis patients with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* infection.

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Klepser ME. Role of nebulized antibiotics for the treatment of respiratory infections. *Curr Opin Infect Dis* 2004;17:109e12.

# Introduction

- Administration of inhaled colistin without its concurrent intravenous administration for nosocomial pneumonia has been reported, although very rarely, in the literature.

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Michalopoulos A, Kasiakou SK, Mastora Z, Rellos K, Kapaskelis AM, Falagas ME. Aerosolized colistin for the treatment of nosocomial pneumonia due to multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacteria in patients without cystic fibrosis. *Crit Care* 2005;9:R53e9.

Kwa AL, Loh C, Low JG, Kurup A, Tam VH. Nebulized colistin in the treatment of pneumonia due to multidrug-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. *Clin Infect Dis* 2005;41:754e7.

# Introduction

- In clinical practice, physicians not rarely face conditions, which discourage the systemic administration of colistin (i.e. due to systemic toxicity), while the implicated pathogen is a colistin-only susceptible one.

# Introduction

- Herein, I present my experience with patients with MDR Gram-negative VAP treated with inhaled (without concurrent intravenous) colistin.

# Methods

- *Design: A retrospective study.*
- *Setting: Intensive Care Unit of a Tertiary hospital.*
- *Patients: Hospitalized patients during the period 01/08/2012 to 31/01/2013 on invasive mechanical ventilation in the ICU with positive MAB cultures of the airway.*

# Methods

- *Interventions:*
  - All received treatment with colistin (CL).
  - One million IU colistin was diluted in 5 mL sterile normal saline and then delivered to the patients via the same route through which they inhaled  $\beta$ 2-agonists.
  - *Ventilator associated pneumonia (VAP)* was determined according to routine criteria.

# Methods

- Data collection and entry
  - demographics,
  - comorbidities
  - and Acute physiological and Chronic Health Evaluation II (APACHE II) scores on ICU admission and on the first day of colistin treatment,
  - the responsible pathogens

# Methods

- Data collection and entry
  - Results of laboratory and radiological data were collected from medical records.

# Methods

- Microbiological test:
  - An automated broth microdilution method (Vitek 2, bio-Merieux, Hazelwood, MO, USA) was used for routine laboratory susceptibility testing to commonly used antibiotics.

# Definitions of pneumonia

- Pneumonia was considered to be VAP when it occurred 48 hours after the initiation of mechanical ventilation.

# Definitions of pneumonia

- Diagnosis of VAP was based on
  - radiological (new or progressive infiltrate),
  - clinical (body temperature  $> 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $< 36^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
  - and laboratory findings (abnormal white blood cell count, C-reactive protein and gas exchange).
- The diagnosis of VAP *should be* microbiologically confirmed by positive cultures *from either bronchial secretions or bronchoalveolar lavage* samples of each patient.

# Definition of outcome

- Cured: resolution of presenting symptoms and signs of infection by the end of treatment.
- Improved: partial resolution of presenting symptoms and signs or infection.
- Failed: persistence or worsening of presenting symptoms and/or signs of infection during colistin administration.
- Indeterminate: clinical assessment was not possible.

# Microbiologic outcomes

- Eradication: no growth of the responsible pathogen
- Persistence: persistent growth of the responsible pathogen, or
- Indeterminate: when microbiological assessment was not possible.

# MDR

- Resistant to all but two antipseudomonal classes of antimicrobial agents (namely antipseudomonal penicillins, cephalosporins, carbapenems, monobactams, quinolones, aminoglycosides, and polymyxins).

# Colistin-only susceptible

- Resistant to all antipseudomonal agents except colistin

# Results

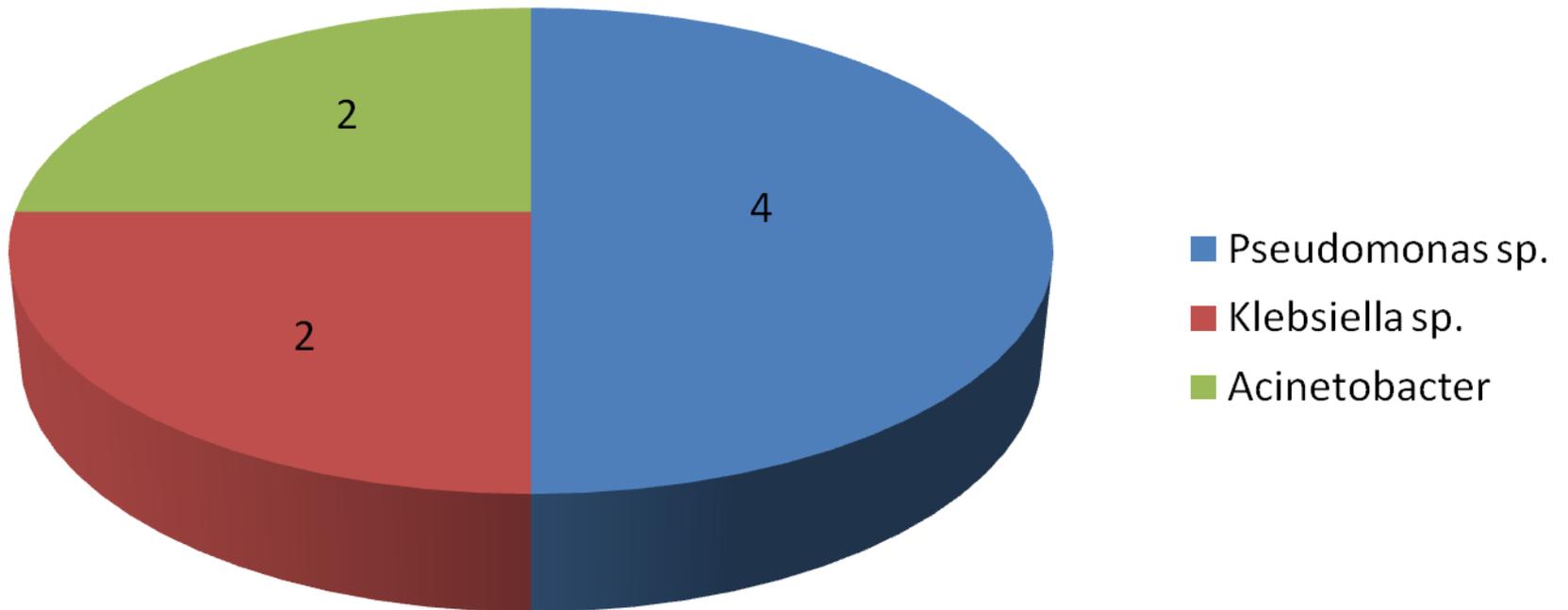
# Results

- During the study period, in eight patients colistin was given through nebulization only (not systemically) for the treatment of Colistin only sensitive gram-negative infections.
- Six males and two female were included.

# Results

- The median age was  $(24+63)/2=43.5$  years.
- Mean Acute Physiological and Chronic Health Evaluation (APACHE) II scores on the day of ICU admission and on day 1 of nebulized colistin administration were 16 and 13.1, respectively.
- All patients had ventilator-associated pneumonia.
- Mean Clinical Pulmonary Infection Score (CPIS) was 8.3.

# Implicated Pathogens



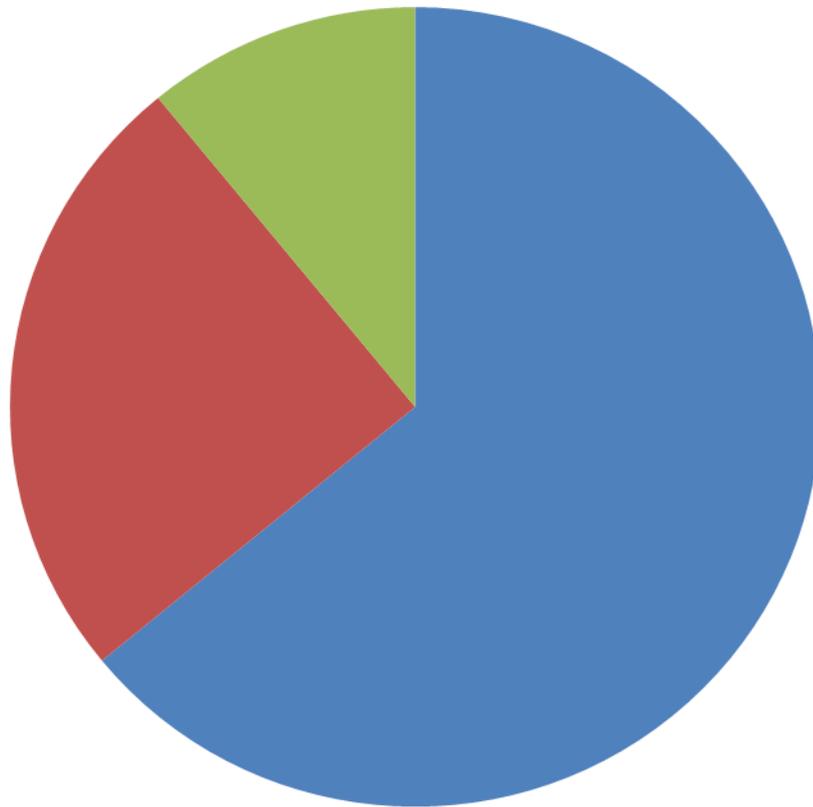
# Clinical characteristic in patients receiving aerosolized colistin therapy for VAP

Patient	Reason for admission	Discharge diagnosis
1	Traumatic brain injury (SAH, ICH, DAI) , Acute Respiratory Failure	Traumatic brain injury (SAH, ICH, DAI) Hospital acquired infections( UTI, RTI, ASOM, Lip ulcer), SIADH
2	PTB, NSTEMI,ALVF	VAP, PTB, NSTEMI,ALVF
3	Type II respiratory failure, OHS, RTI	VAP, Type II respiratory failure, OHS, RTI
4	Acute on CKD, Pulmonary Edema	VAP, Acute on CKD, Pul Edema, DM, HTN
5	Respiratory failure due to Intermediate Syndrome (OP Poisoning)	VAP, Respiratory failure due to Intermediate Syndrome (OP poisoning)
6	Sedative poisoning	VAP, Sedative poisoning
7	GBM posterior fossa, Obstructive hydrocephalus, S/P VP shunt	VAP, GBM, DM, Septic shock with MOF
8	Stoke, DM, CKD	VAP, Stroke, DM, CKD, UTI

## Clinical characteristic in patients receiving aerosolized colistin therapy for VAP

Patient	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Duration of mechanical ventilation (days)	10	5	11	8	8	4	9	10
Duration of nebulized Colistin	8	10	13	12	8	12	8	8
Duration of hospitalization (days)	32	14	15	17	16	16	14	14
Duration of ICU stay (days)	26	8	12	10	8	5	10	11

# Outcome



- Cured
- Improved
- Failed

# Tolerance and safety of inhaled colistin

- No patient experienced adverse events from inhalation of colistin, such as bronchoconstriction, chest tightness or apnoea.
- Serum creatinine level was not deteriorated.

# Discussion

- This is a case series of eight patients with MDR Gram negative ventilator associated pneumonia treated with inhaled (but not intravenous) colistin.
- The implicated pathogens were colistin-only susceptible in all cases.
- Six out of the eight patients were cured, survived and were discharged.

# Discussion

- Concerns regarding nephrotoxicity and neurotoxicity associated with systematic administration of colistin discouraged physicians from prescribing it in potentially vulnerable patients.

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Falagas ME, Kasiakou SK. Toxicity of polymyxins: a systematic review of the evidence from old and recent studies. *Crit Care* 2006;10: R27.

# Discussion

- It seems reasonable that the exact delivery of a medication directly to the suffering lung tissue may be beneficial.
- Pharmacokinetic studies have shown that a single inhalation of colistin leads to high sputum concentrations of the drug even 12 h after the administration.

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Ratjen F, Rietschel E, Kasel D, Schwiertz R, Starke K, Beier H, et al. Pharmacokinetics of inhaled colistin in patients with cystic fibrosis. *J Antimicrob Chemother* 2006;57:306e11.

# Limitations

- The retrospective design,
- Sample number of patients,
- Absence of a control group
- And the patients of our report received concurrently intravenous antibiotics; however, the responsible pathogens were not susceptible to intravenous antibiotics

# Key messages

- Aerosolized administration of colistin is a promising therapy for management of patients with pneumonia (whether ventilator associated or not) due to multidrug resistant Gram-negative bacteria.
- Aerosolized colistin was safe in this group of patients.
- There is an urgent need for randomized controlled trials examining the efficacy and safety of nebulized colistin for the management of patients with nosocomial pneumonia.

Thank You