CLINICAL AND LABORATORY STANDARDS INSTITUTE®

3rd Edition

M27M44S

Performance Standards for Antifungal Susceptibility Testing of Yeasts

This document includes updated minimal inhibitory concentration, zone diameter, and quality control tables for the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute antifungal susceptibility testing documents M27 and M44.

A CLSI supplement for global application.

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Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute
P: +1.610.688.0100
F: +1.610.688.0700
www.clsi.org
standard@clsi.org

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Performance Standards for Antifungal Susceptibility Testing of Yeasts

Gary W. Procop, MD, MS
Philippe J. Dufresne, PhD, RMCCM
Elizabeth Berkow, PhD
Sharon K. Cullen, BS, RAC
Tanis Dingle, PhD, D(ABMM), FCCM
Jeff Fuller, PhD, FCCM, D(ABMM)
Kimberly E. Hanson, MD, MHS
Nicole M. Holliday, BA
Audrey N. Schuetz, MD, MPH, D(ABMM)
Paul E. Verweij, MD, FECMM
Nathan P. Wiederhold, PharmD
Adrian M. Zelazny, PhD, D(ABMM)

Abstract

Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute document M27M44S—*Performance Standards for Antifungal Susceptibility Testing of Yeasts* includes minimal inhibitory concentration, zone diameter, and quality control tables developed following the guidance in CLSI documents M27[1] and M44.[2] The data in the tables are valid only when the methodologies in CLSI documents M27[1] and M44[2] are followed. Users should replace previously published tables with these new tables. Changes in the tables since the previous edition was published appear in boldface type.

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Committee Membership

Subcommittee on Antifungal Susceptibility Tests

Gary W. Procop, MD, MS
Chairholder
American Board of Pathology
USA

Philippe J. Dufresne, PhD, RMCCM
Vice-Chairholder
Institut national de santé publique du Québec
Canada

Camille Hamula, PhD, D(ABMM)
Committee Secretary
Saskatoon Health Region/ University of Saskatchewan
Canada

Elizabeth Berkow, PhD
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
USA

Sharon K. Cullen, BS, RAC
Beckman Coulter, Inc.
Microbiology Business
USA

Jeff Fuller, PhD, FCCM, D(ABMM)
London Health Sciences Centre
Canada

Kimberly E. Hanson, MD, MHS
University of Utah and ARUP Laboratories
USA

Nicole M. Holliday, BA
Thermo Fisher Scientific
USA

Audrey N. Schuetz, MD, MPH, D(ABMM)
Mayo Clinic
USA

Paul E. Verweij, MD, FECMM
Radboud University Medical Center
the Netherlands

Nathan P. Wiederhold, PharmD
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
USA

Adrian M. Zelazny, PhD, D(ABMM)
National Institutes of Health
Department of Laboratory Medicine
USA

Working Group on Antifungal Breakpoints

David Andes, MD
Co-Chairholder
University of Wisconsin-Madison Medical School
USA

Andrew M. Borman, BSc, PhD
Co-Chairholder
Public Health England
United Kingdom

Nathan P. Wiederhold, PharmD
Committee Secretary
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
USA

Mariana Castanheira, PhD
JMI Laboratories
USA

Philippe J. Dufresne, PhD, RMCCM
Institut national de santé publique du Québec
Canada

Kimberly E. Hanson, MD, MHS
University of Utah and ARUP Laboratories
USA

Shawn R. Lockhart, PhD, D(ABMM), F(AAM)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
USA

Gary W. Procop, MD, MS
American Board of Pathology
USA

Working Group on Antifungal Epidemiological Cutoff Values

Shawn R. Lockhart, PhD, D(ABMM), F(AAM)
Chairholder
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
USA

Philippe J. Dufresne, PhD, RMCCM
Vice-Chairholder
Institut national de santé publique du Québec
Canada

Nathan P. Wiederhold, PharmD
Committee Secretary
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
USA

Barbara D. Alexander, MD, MHS
Duke University Medical Center
USA

Elizabeth Berkow, PhD
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
USA

Jeff Fuller, PhD, FCCM, D(ABMM)
London Health Sciences Centre
Canada

Mahmoud A. Ghannoum, PhD, FIDSA, MBA
Case Western Reserve University
USA

Kerian K. Grande Roche, PhD
FDA Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
USA

Kimberly E. Hanson, MD, MHS
University of Utah and
ARUP Laboratories
USA

John D. Turnidge, MD, BS, FRACP, FASM, FRCPA
The University of Adelaide
Australia

Thomas J. Walsh, MD, FIDSA, FAAM, FECMM
Weill Cornell Medicine of Cornell University and New York Presbyterian Hospital
USA

Working Group on Antifungal Reporting

Audrey N. Schuetz, MD, MPH, D(ABMM)
Co-Chairholder
Mayo Clinic
USA

Vera Tesic, MD, MS, D(ABMM)
Co-Chairholder
University of Chicago
USA

Tanis Dingle, PhD, D(ABMM), FCCM
Alberta Precision Laboratories-Public Health Laboratory
Canada

Kimberly E. Hanson, MD, MHS
University of Utah and
ARUP Laboratories
USA

Stephanie L. Mitchell, PhD, D(ABMM)
Cepheid
USA

Natasha N. Pettit, PharmD, BCPS (AQ-ID)
University of Chicago Medicine
USA

Thomas J. Walsh, MD, PhD(hon), FIDSA, FAAM, FECMM
Weill Cornell Medicine of Cornell University and New York Presbyterian Hospital
USA

Nathan P. Wiederhold, PharmD
University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio
USA

Matthew A. Wikler, MD, FIDSA, MBA
IDSD Consulting
USA

Yanan (Nancy) Zhao, PhD
Center for Discovery and Innovation, Hackensack Meridian Health
USA

Staff

Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute
USA

Christine M. Lam, MT(ASCP)
Project Manager

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Tanis Dingle, PhD, D(ABMM), FCCM
Alberta Precision Laboratories–
Public Health Laboratory
Canada

Contents

Foreword

The breakpoints and interpretive categories provided in this document are generated using the reference methods for antifungal susceptibility testing of yeasts described in CLSI documents M27[1] and M44.[2] These reference methods may be used for:

- Routine antifungal testing of patient isolates to guide therapy
- Evaluation of commercial devices that will be used in medical laboratories
- Testing of new agents or systems by drug or device manufacturers

Results generated by reference methods, such as those described in CLSI documents, may be used by regulatory authorities to evaluate commercial susceptibility testing device performance as part of the commercial device approval process. Regulatory clearance indicates that the commercial susceptibility testing device provides results that are substantially equivalent to those generated using reference methods for the organisms and antimicrobial agents described in the device manufacturer's approved package insert.

However, CLSI breakpoints may differ from breakpoints approved by various regulatory organizations for many reasons, including:

- Database differences
- Data interpretation
- Dosage amounts used in different parts of the world
- Public health policies

Differences also exist because CLSI proactively evaluates the need for changing breakpoints. The reasons that breakpoints may change, as well as the manner in which CLSI evaluates data and determines breakpoints, are described in CLSI document M23.[3]

When CLSI decides to change an existing breakpoint, regulatory organizations may review data to determine how the changes may affect antimicrobial agent safety and effectiveness for the approved indications. When a regulatory authority changes breakpoints, commercial device manufacturers may have to conduct a clinical trial, submit the data to the regulatory organization, and await review and approval. For these reasons, there might be a delay of one or more years if a device manufacturer decides to implement a breakpoint change. Some regulatory and accreditation requirements permit laboratories using cleared or approved testing devices to use existing regulatory organization breakpoints. Either the regulatory approved breakpoints or CLSI breakpoints may be acceptable to laboratory accreditation organizations**, depending on the method used for susceptibility testing.** Other regulatory and accreditation requirements vary. Each laboratory should consult its susceptibility test system manufacturer for additional information on the breakpoints used in its system software. Laboratories should be aware of their specific regulatory and accreditation requirements for using CLSI breakpoints.