

*Abstract C2-168*

*47th ICAAC, Chicago, September 2007*

***Susceptibility profile to penicillin,  
erythromycin and clindamycin of clinical  
isolates of group B streptococci recently  
isolated in Belgium and detection of  
erythromycin resistance genes***

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# Background

## Group B streptococci or *S.agalactiae*

- **Since the 1970s, leading cause of life-threatening infections in newborns**

- Neonatal illness/death
- Long-term disabilities

**Of major concern**

- **Maternal morbidity**
  - Along pregnancy
  - Peripartum
- **Serious diseases among elderly and adults with underlying diseases**
  - Significant mortality



# MMWR™

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Recommendations and Reports

August 16, 2002 / Vol. 51 / No. RR-11

## Prevention of Perinatal Group B Streptococcal Disease

Revised Guidelines from CDC



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d'Hygiène

## PRÉVENTION DES INFECTIONS PÉRINATALES À STREPTOCOQUES DU GROUPE B

.be

# Prevention of perinatal GBS EOD

- Intrapartum antibiotics
  - Highly effective at preventing EOD in women at risk of transmitting GBS to their newborns ( $\geq 4$  h)

## INTRAPARTUM ANTIMICROBIAL PROPHYLAXIS

Main goal :

- To prevent 70 to 80 % of GBS EO cases

Secondary :

- To reduce peripartum maternal morbidity



# Concerns

- Increase of resistance to erythromycin and clindamycin
- Susceptibility to penicillin
  - Very few R isolates recently characterized in Japan

# Objectives

Among GBS recently isolated in Belgium

- From adults with severe infections
  - From early or late onset neonatal diseases
- To monitor penicillin susceptibility
  - To determine rates of erythromycin and clindamycin resistance
  - To assess the distribution of macrolide resistance phenotypes
  - To identify genes coding for resistance to erythromycin

# Methods : Isolates

- Clinical isolates
  - Sent to the Belgian reference laboratory for GBS from January 2005 and June 2006
  - From blood, CSF or any deep normally sterile site
  - 178 isolates
    - 22 from neonatal EOD
    - 10 from neonatal LOD
    - 146 from adult invasive disease
    - Serotypes
      - Ia (17%); Ib (6%); II (10%); III (33%); IV (6%); V (21%); others (7%)
- Reference strains
  - Positive either for *ermB*, *ermTR* or *mefA* genes
  - Negative for these 3 genes



# Methods : Susceptibility testing

- Disk diffusion
  - For all isolates
  - Erythromycin (15 µg) and clindamycin (2 µg) disks
  - 18 mm apart
- Etest
  - Benzylpenicilline strips
    - For all isolates
  - Erythromycin and clindamycin strips
    - For all erythromycin resistant isolates
- Macrolide resistant phenotypes - Dtest
  - MLS<sub>B</sub> phenotypes
    - Inducible Resistance
    - Constitutive Resistance
  - M Phenotype

# Interpretation criteria *(MH with blood)* (CLSI 2006)

	Zone Diameter (mm)			MIC (mg/L)		
	S	I	R	S	I	R
<b>Penicillin</b>	≥ 24	-	-	≤ 0.12	-	-
<b>Erythromycin</b>	≥ 21	16-20	≤ 15	≤ 0.25	0.5	≥ 1
<b>Clindamycin</b>	≥ 19	16-18	≤ 15	≤ 0.25	0.5	≥ 1

# Methods : Detection of R genes

- DNA extraction
  - QIAmp DNA Mini Kit (Qiagen)
- PCR amplification with specific primers and protocols
  - Detection of *ermB*, *ermTR* and *mefA* genes
- Characterisation of PCR products
  - Separation by electrophoresis
    - 2% Agarose gel + ethidium bromide staining
    - Visualization under UV light

Targets	PCR Product sizes (bp)
<i>ermB</i>	640
<i>ermTR</i>	530
<i>mefA</i>	348

# Results

## Antimicrobial susceptibility profile of 178 GBS clinical isolates

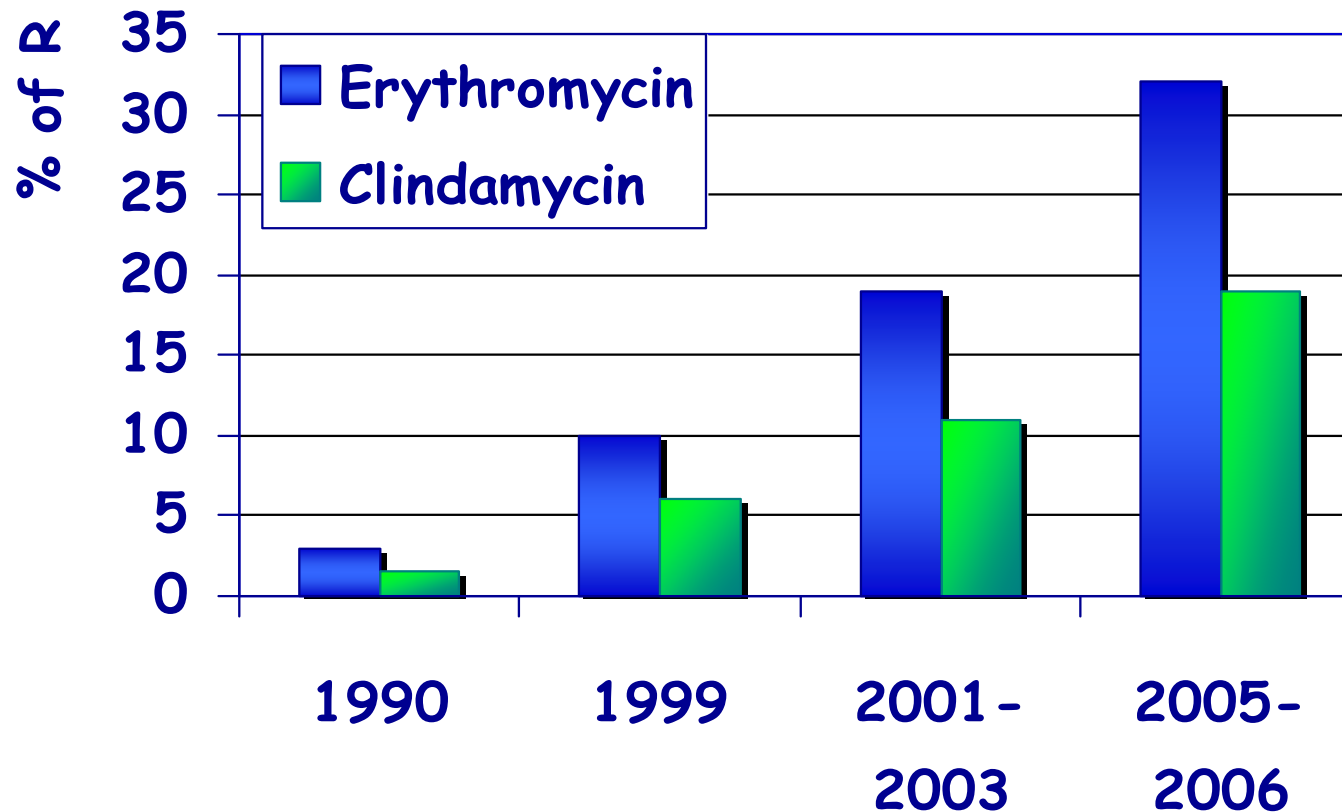
	<b>% of Resistance</b>	<b>MIC<sub>90</sub> (mg/L)</b>	<b>MIC Range (mg/L)</b>
<b>Penicillin*</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.094</b>	<b>0.016-0.094</b>
<b>Erythromycin</b>	<b>32</b>		
<b>Clindamycin</b>	<b>19 (25**)</b>		

*\* : same interpretation for ampicillin and cefazolin*

*\*\* : iMLS resistant phenotype included*

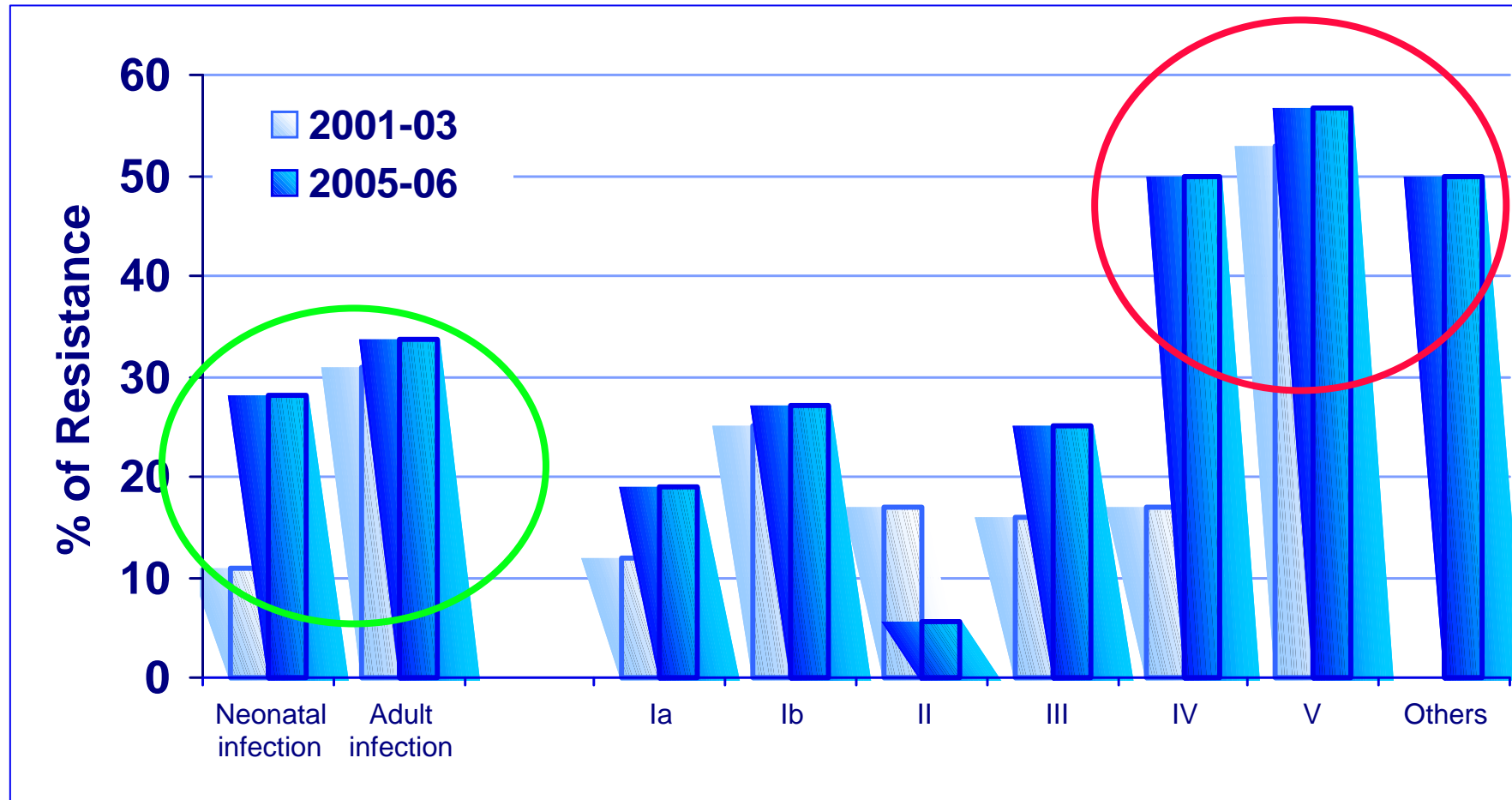
# Results

## Erythromycin and clindamycin resistance Evolution among Belgian GBS isolates



# Results

## Erythromycin resistance among Belgian clinical GBS isolates



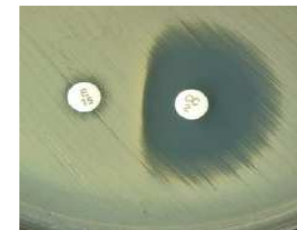
# Results

## MLS Resistance phenotypes

Phenotype		%	Ery MIC <sub>50</sub> / MIC <sub>90</sub> (mg/L)
MLS	<i>Constitutive</i>	45	>256 / >256
	<i>Inducible</i>	34	4 / >256
M		21	4 / 12

### ■ Dtest

- cMLS      Erythro R & Clinda R
- iMLS      Erythro R & Clinda S/I/R    with Dtest +
- M         Erythro R & Clinda S                with Dtest -



# Results

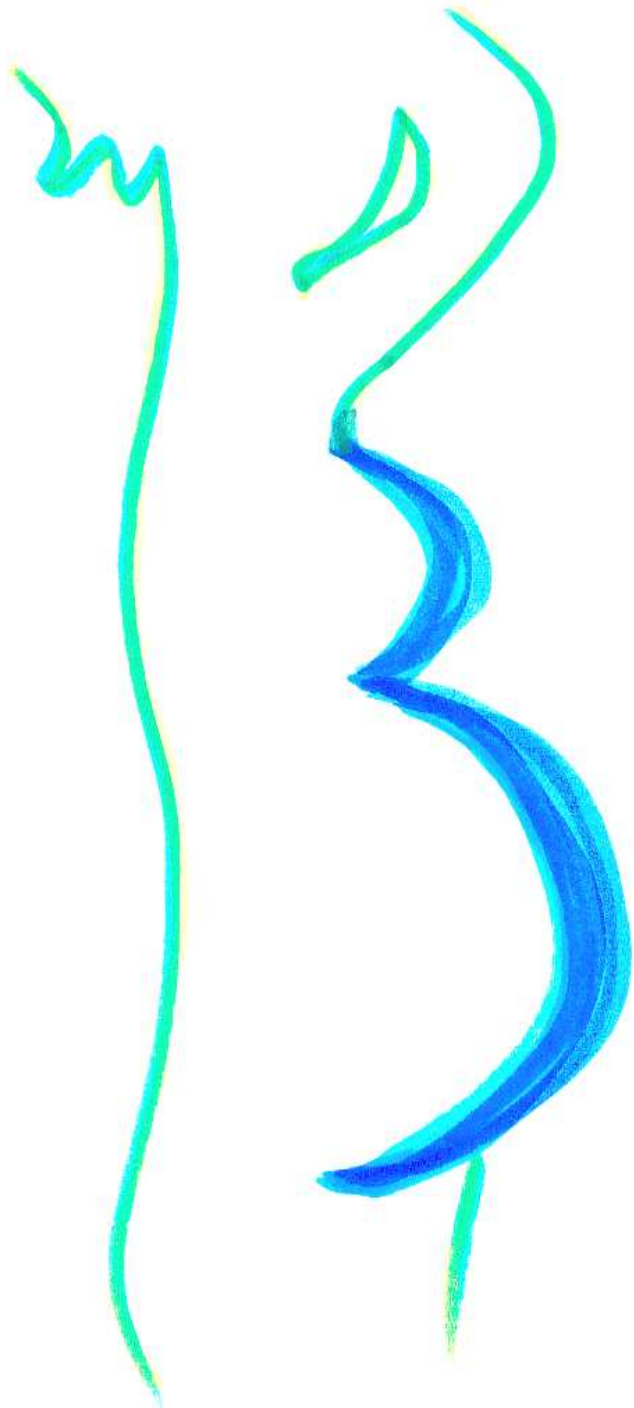
## Distribution of macrolide R genes

Resistance phenotype	Resistance genotype	Number of isolates (% per phenotype)
<b>MLS constitutive</b> (26 isolates)	<i>ermB</i>	<b>19 (73)</b>
	<i>ermTR</i>	2 (8)
	<i>ermB</i> & <i>ermTR</i>	5 (19)
<b>MLS inducible</b> (20 isolates)	<i>ermB</i>	1 (5)
	<b><i>ermTR</i></b>	<b>16 (80)</b>
	<i>ermB</i> & <i>ermTR</i>	1 (5)
	<i>ermTR</i> & <i>mefA</i>	1 (5)
	unknown	1 (5)
<b>M</b> (12 isolates)	<i>ermTR</i>	3 (25)
	<b><i>mefA</i></b>	<b>8 (67)</b>
	<i>ermB</i> & <i>ermTR</i>	1 (8)



# Conclusion

- **All GBS isolates fully susceptible to penicillin**
- **Increase of resistance to macrolides : a relevant problem.**
  - **Level: similar to rates observed in France, a neighbour country.**
  - **No more difference among isolates from either adults or neonates.**
  - **Most of macrolide R isolates had a MLS phenotype.**
  - **Detection of MLS-IR is important**
    - **simple and reliable double-disk diffusion test strongly recommended.**
- **Neither macrolides no lincosamides should no longer be used without susceptibility testing.**



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