

# Using artificial intelligence to analyse and predict susceptibility to antimicrobials

Guest speakers: Adrian Egli, Javier Fernández Domínguez

Moderator: Margo Diricks

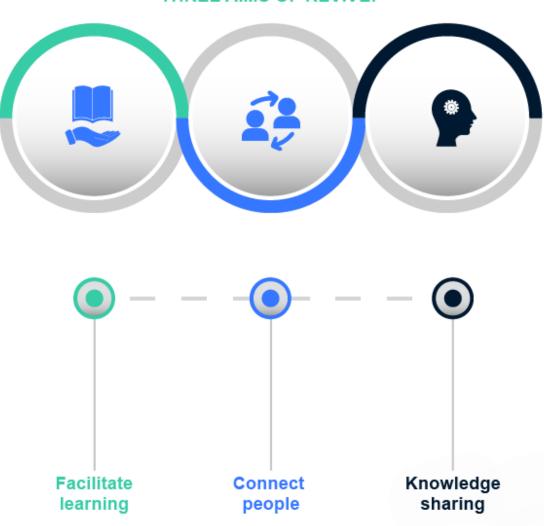
Host: Victor Kouassi

28 October 2025



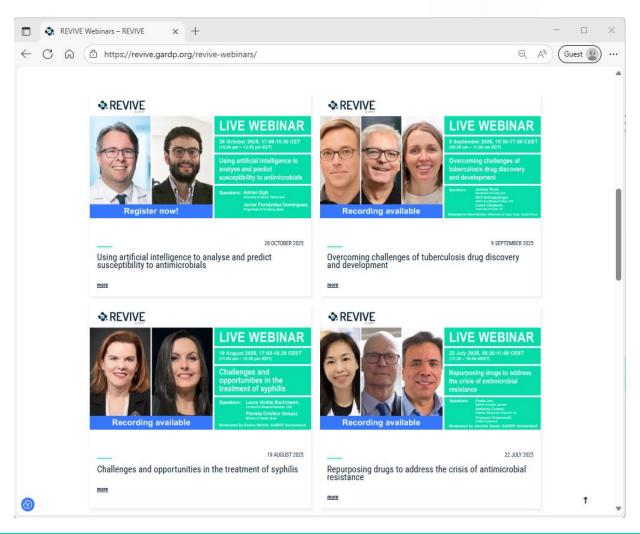
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#### THREE AIMS OF REVIVE:



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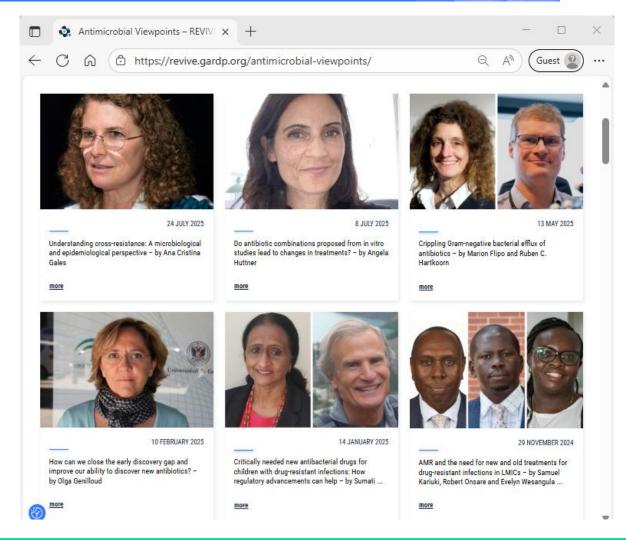




# **Antimicrobial Viewpoints**

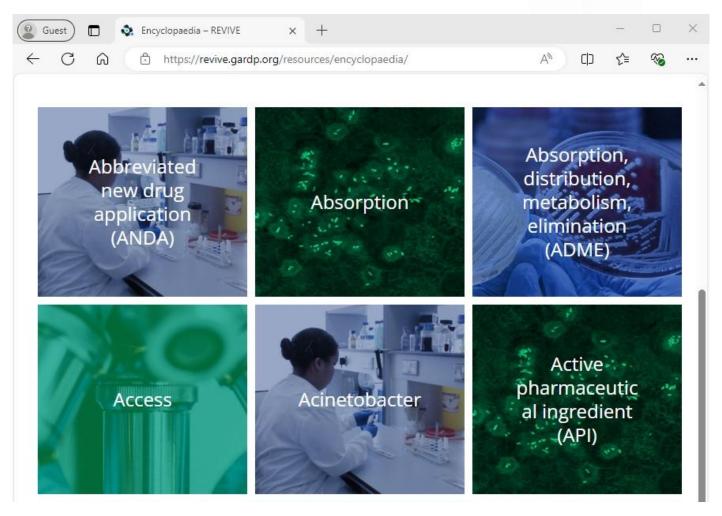






# Antimicrobial Encyclopaedia

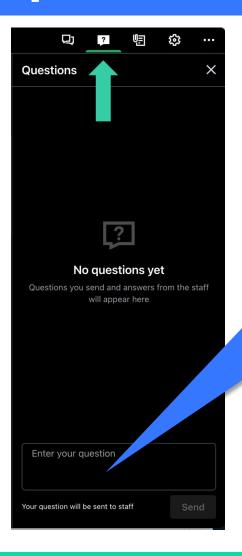




# How to submit your questions



If your question is addressed to a specific speaker, please include their name when submitting the question.



Please submit your questions through the box provided after clicking the 'questions' button. We will review all questions and respond to as many as possible after the presentation.

# Today's speakers





# Using artificial intelligence to analyse and predict susceptibility to antimicrobials



Moderator:
Margo Diricks
Postdoctoral researcher,
Research Center Borstel –
Leibniz Lung Center (Germany)



Adrian Egli
Director, Institute of
Medical Microbiology,
University of Zürich
(Switzerland)



Javier Fernández
Domínguez
Co-founder and co-CEO,
Pragmatech Al Solutions
(Spain)



# **Adrian Egli**



Adrian Egli is Director of the Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Zürich. His research aims include developing new diagnostics for rapid detection of multidrug-resistant and virulent pathogens, exploring novel typing technologies such as whole genome sequencing (including long reads, e.g. Pacbio, Minion) and MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry for clinical applications and to understand evolution of pathogens within the host (e.g. during antibiotic treatment).

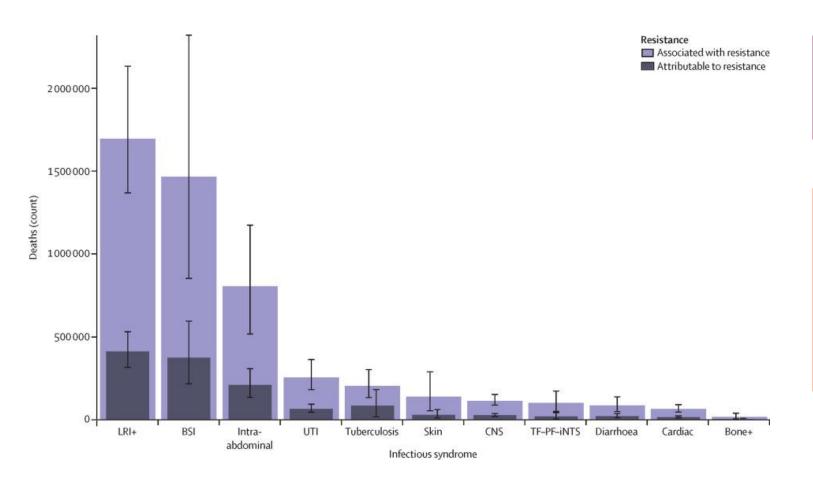
Between 2015 and 2022, Adrian was the Head of Clinical Microbiology at the University Hospital of Basel, Switzerland where he was also a fellow in Clinical Microbiology. He is also a Research Group Leader in Applied Microbiology Research in the Department of Biomedicine of the University of Basel. Adrian studied medicine at the University of Basel and also received his PhD from the same university in 2008.







#### **Problem for diagnostics: different pathogens**

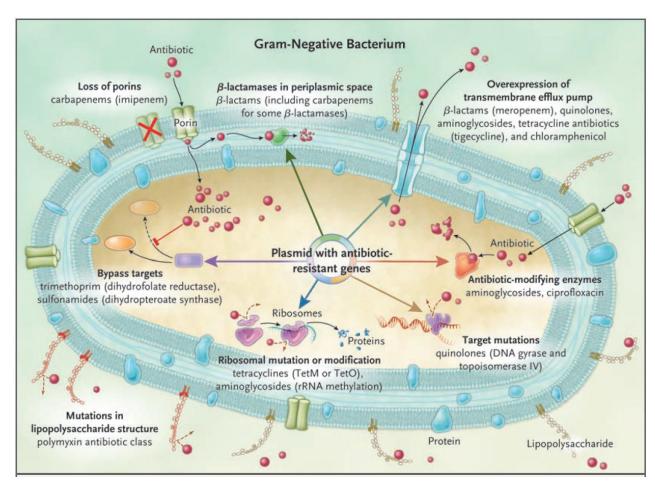


- → <u>Different lead pathogens</u>.
- → <u>Different sample types.</u>

Antimicrobial resistance collaborators, Lancet 2022

In 2019: Estimated 4,95 million people (95% CI 3,62–6,57) died with AMR, incl. 1,27 million people (95% CI 0,91–1,71) died <u>due</u> to AMR

## Problem for diagnostics: different molecular mechanisms for resistance



Peleg AY and Hooper DC, NEJM 2010

- Porin loss
- Efflux pump
- Target modification
- Cleaving enzymes
- → Diverse resistance mechanisms, not all are simply based on a single gene.
- **→** Heterogenity

## Delay in antibiotic susceptibility testing

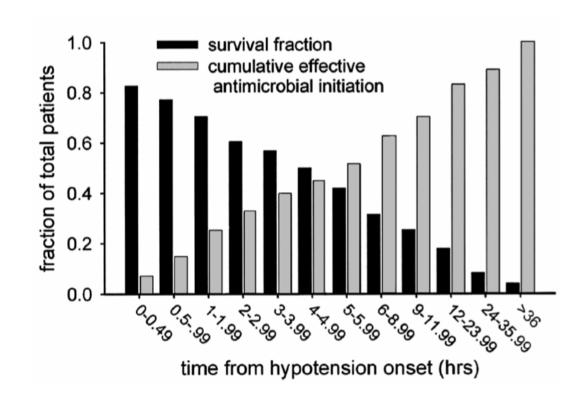
Time to efficient treatment is associated with survival 1.

**Problem:** Antibiotic susceptibility testing takes time.

→ As consequence, broad-spectrum empiric treatment is given. Not everything can be covered.

**Reason for need:** Antimicrobial resistance is rapidly expanding. Diagnostic information helps to treat adequatly.

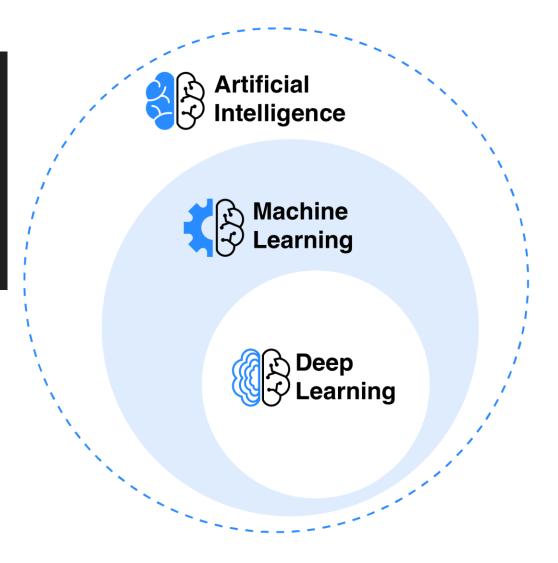
**One question we asked outselves:** Can we use artificial intelligence for rapid assessment?



## What is artificial intelligence?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is the field of computer science focused on creating machines that can perform tasks requiring human-like intelligence, such as reasoning, learning, problem-solving, and decision-making. Al systems achieve this by learning from vast amounts of data to identify patterns, make predictions, and adapt their behavior, enabling them to automate complex tasks and improve performance over time.

Google: "What is artificial intelligence?" (26.09.2025, AE)



#### What can we do with AI?

#### 1. Categorisation!

## Input



Black box (a.k.a. AI)





Trend towards explainable AI

#### **Output**







Blueberry muffin

Non-food

Blueberry muffin

Non-food









Non-food

Scone

Non-food

Blueberry muffin



Bialy









Non-food

Blueberry

Non-food muffin











Non-food

**Blueberry** muffin

Non-food

**Blueberry** muffin

#### What can we do with AI?

#### Accessing information! ( $\neq$ knowledge).

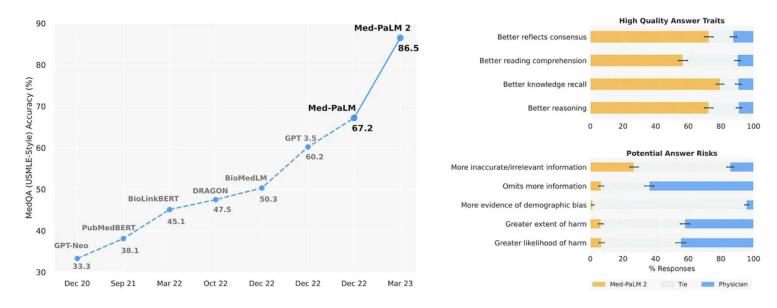


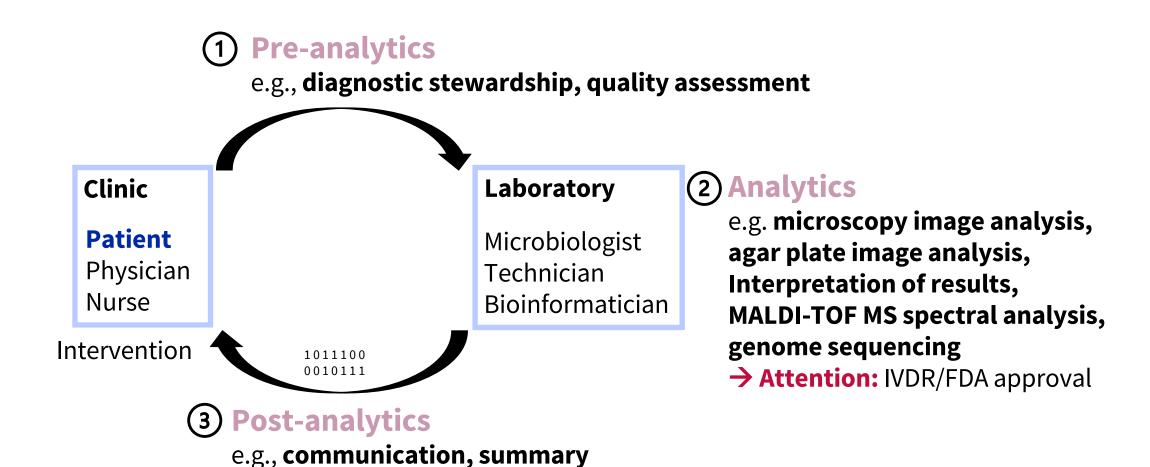
Figure 1 | Med-PaLM 2 performance on MultiMedQA Left: Med-PaLM 2 achieved an accuracy of 86.5% on USMLE-style questions in the MedQA dataset. Right: In a pairwise ranking study on 1066 consumer medical questions, Med-PaLM 2 answers were preferred over physician answers by a panel of physicians across eight of nine axes in our evaluation framework.

- Newst models with deep research capacity reach >98% in MedQA.
- **Domain level expertise** e.g. in public health and epidemiology is likely much lower.
- Challenges: Data scarcity. Medicine is per se a very heterogenous topic, little data interoperability.

Singhal K, Azizi S, Tu T et al. Nature 2023

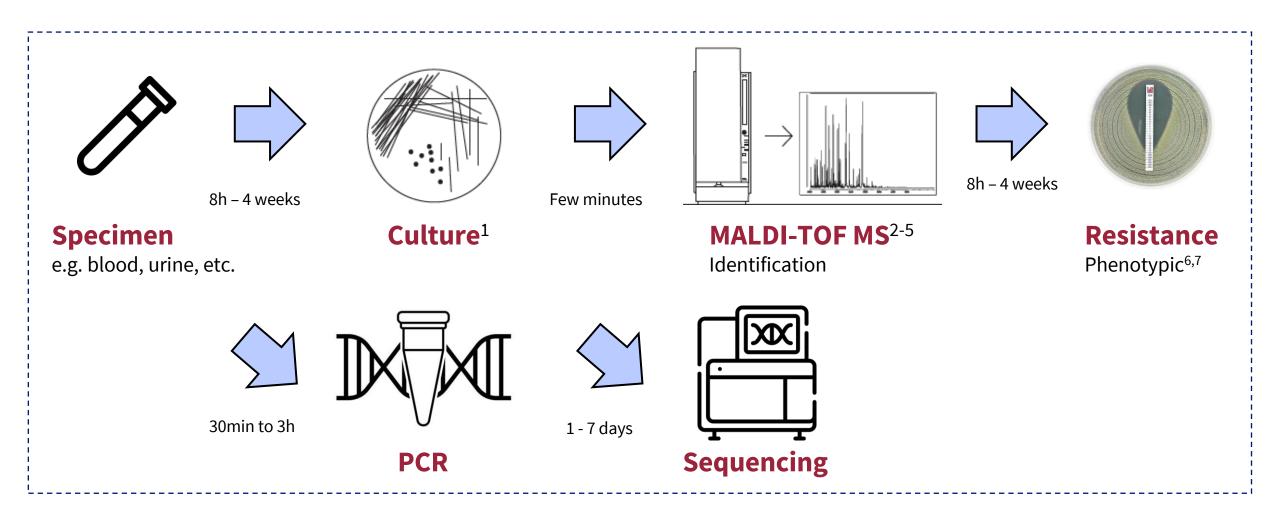
#### Where can AI be implemented? [1]

aka "the brain-to-brain cycles"



[1] Egli A, Schrenzel J, Greub G, Clin Micro Infect 2020; [2] Egli A, Clin Infect Disease 2023

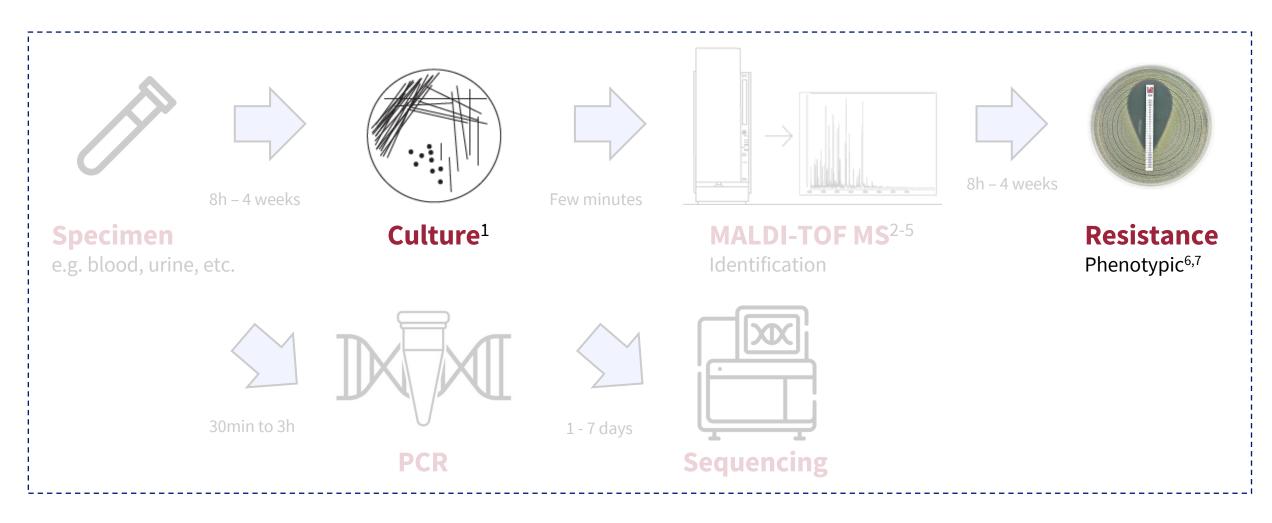
## **Analytics in routine labs**



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Hinic V, Amrein I, ... et Egli A J Micro Met 2017; <sup>2</sup> Dierig A, Frei R, Egli A, Ped Infect Dis J 2015 <sup>3</sup> Egli A et al. Transpl Infect Dis 2015; <sup>4</sup> Osthoff M, ... et Egli, A. Clin Microbiol Infect 2017; <sup>5</sup> Weis C, ... Egli A, Borgwardt K, Bioinformatics 2020; <sup>6</sup> Egli A, Schmid H, et al. Clin Microbiol Infect 2017; <sup>7</sup> Hinic V, Reist J, Egli A J Microbiol Met 2018

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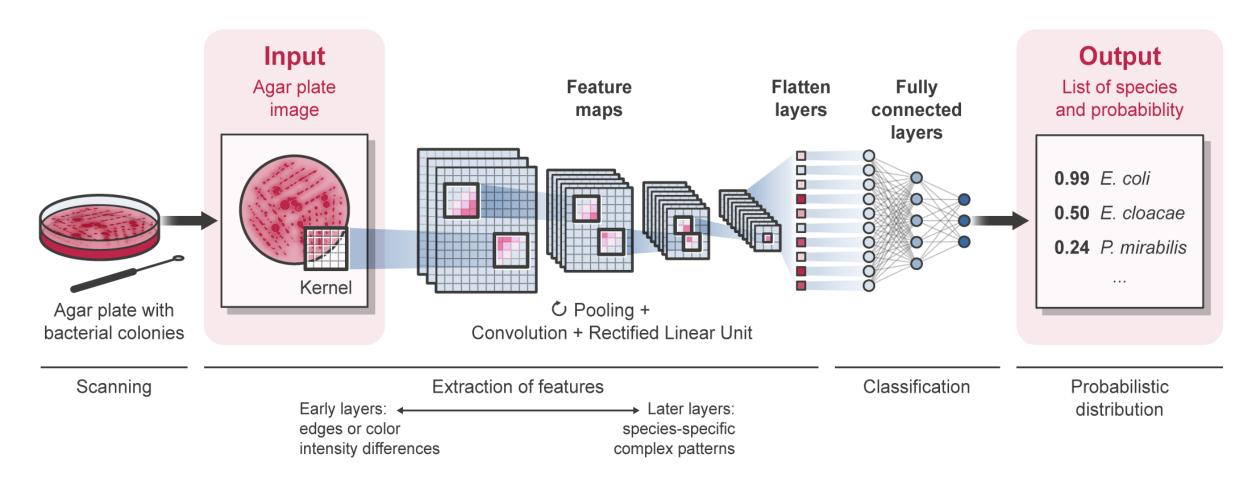
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University of Revive Webinar: Using Al for AMR

#### What is a convolutional neural network?



Weber L, ... et Egli A, in prepare

#### **Culture plates on total lab automation**

#### **Detection of colonies**

— positive vs. negative plates; Sensitivity 97-99%; specificity 94-99%. [1-2]

#### **Identification of bacterial species**

— Staphylococcus aureus, E. coli, etc. with specificity of 94%-99%. [1-4]



Special thanks to Dr. Oliver Nolte for providing the images

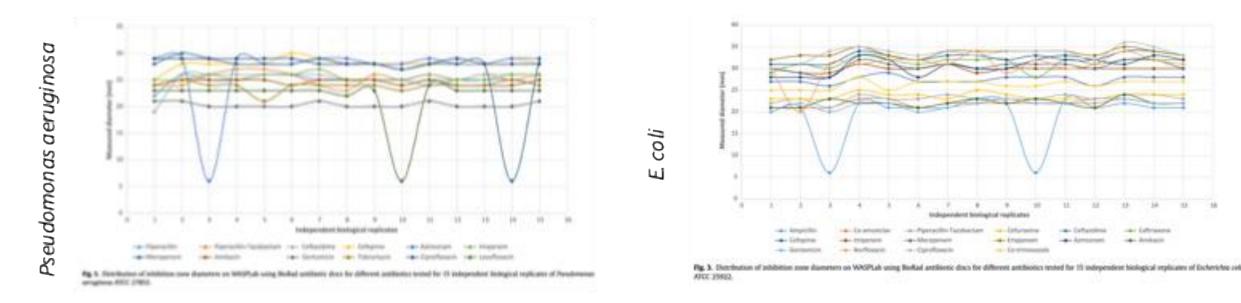
[1] Croxatto A et al. Biomedical J 2017; [2] Glasson J et al JCM 2016; [3] Cherkaoui A, Renzi G et al. Front Cell Infect Microbiol 2019

[4] Signoroni A et al. Nat Commun 2023

#### **Automated reading of resistance**

Automated measurement of inhibition zones: principles. [1-2]

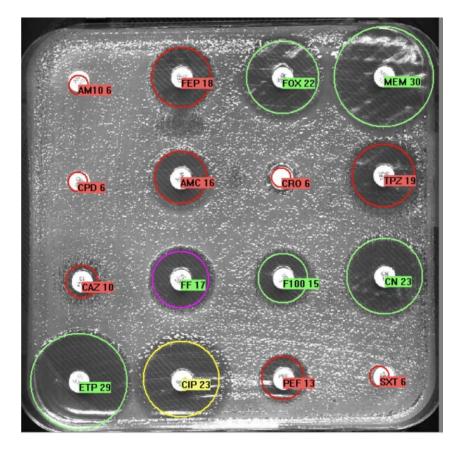
"Currently all results are approved by clinical microbiologists, but in the near future these instruments would automatically deliver S/I/R categories without requiring a human check." [3]



[1] Cherkaoui A, Renzi G, et al. CMI 2019; [2] Hombach M et al. JAC 2017; [3] Dauwalder O et Vandenesch F, CMI 2020

#### **Customized GPT as an expert**

**Leading question:** Can we use a multi-modal LLM to predict the underlaying molecular resistance mechanism?





**Step 1:** Generation of a GPT powered generative Al agent.





#### **EUCAST GPT Expert**

Expert on EUCAST standards and general antimicrobial susceptibility



Step 2: Acquisition of knowledge.

Using document from EUCAST.org

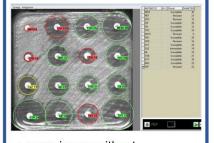
- EUCAST breakpoint table v13.1
- Expert rules

Step 3: Within model testing.

Checked with few examples. Improving rules for obvious mistakes e.g. list of species with chromosomal AmpC.



Step 4: Input for prompt.



- + same image without measurement circles.
- + Table with measured inhibition zones



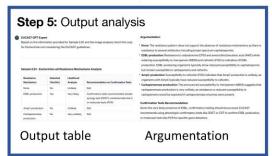


Step 5: Standardized prompting.

Ask for:

- (i) Interpretation of image and table;
- (ii) Provide output table with 4 categories:
- "None", "ESBL", "AmpC", and "Carbapenemase";
- (iii) recommended confirmation;
- (iv) and short argumentation text.





**Step 6:** Calculation of output performance e.g., sensitivity and specificity.

Giske Ch, Bressan M, ... Egli A, JCM 2024

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29/10/2025 | 22
Zurich

# **Human expert vs. custom GPT**

		Human experts <sup>a</sup>	EUCAST-GPT-expert <sup>b</sup>
ESBL	Sensitivity	98.0% (91.8 – 100)	95.4% (94.5 – 96.3)
	Specificity	99.1% (97.1 – 100)	69.2% (63.8 – 85.7)
AmpC	Sensitivity	96.8% (93.3 – 100)	96.9% (87.5 – 96.9)
	Specificity	97.1% (95.9 – 97.7)	86.3% (84.1 – 91.8)
Carbapenemases	Sensitivity	95.5% (90.9 – 100)	100% (90.9 – 100)
	Specificity	98.5% (98.5 – 98.5)	98.8% (98.8 – 98.8)

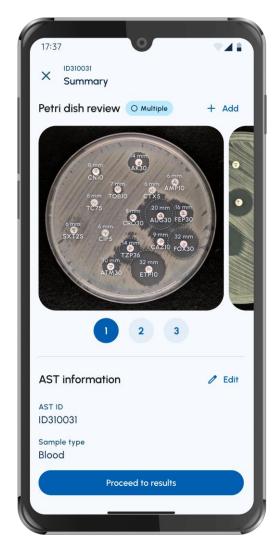
#### **Human expert vs. custom GPT**

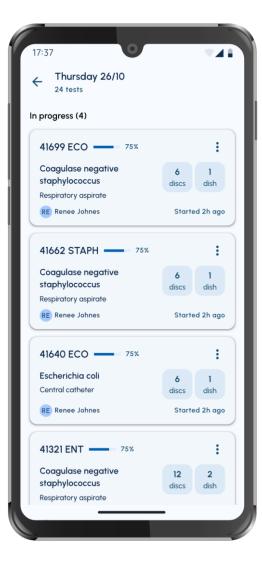
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- Customized GPT is necessary (domain level expertise), as GPT-4 cannot provide a useful output.
- **Specificity of human experts much better** than the AI.
- Prospective validation is necessary.

Giske Ch, Bressan M, ... Egli A, JCM 2024

#### **Antibiogo – a tool by Medecins sans frontieres**



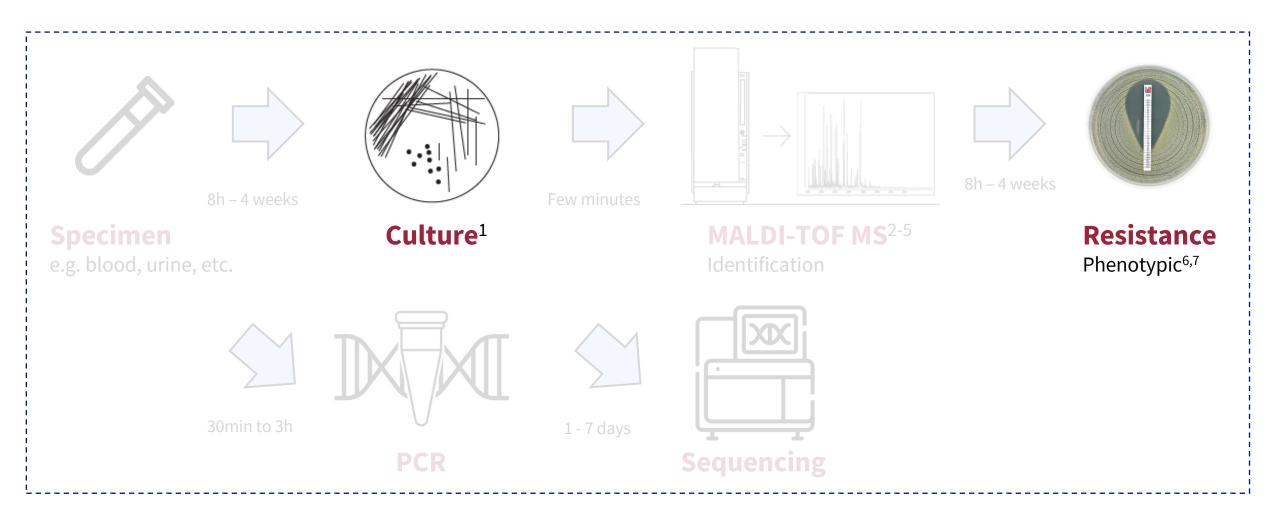


ASTapp is a **free**, **offline** application to help the nonexpert staff in low resources setting laboratories with the **interpretation of antibiograms**.<sup>1</sup>

**Portable AI** via smart phone-based applications or cloud. Example: Smart phone on microscope

1 Malou N, Al Asmar M, et al. MSF Science Portal 2021

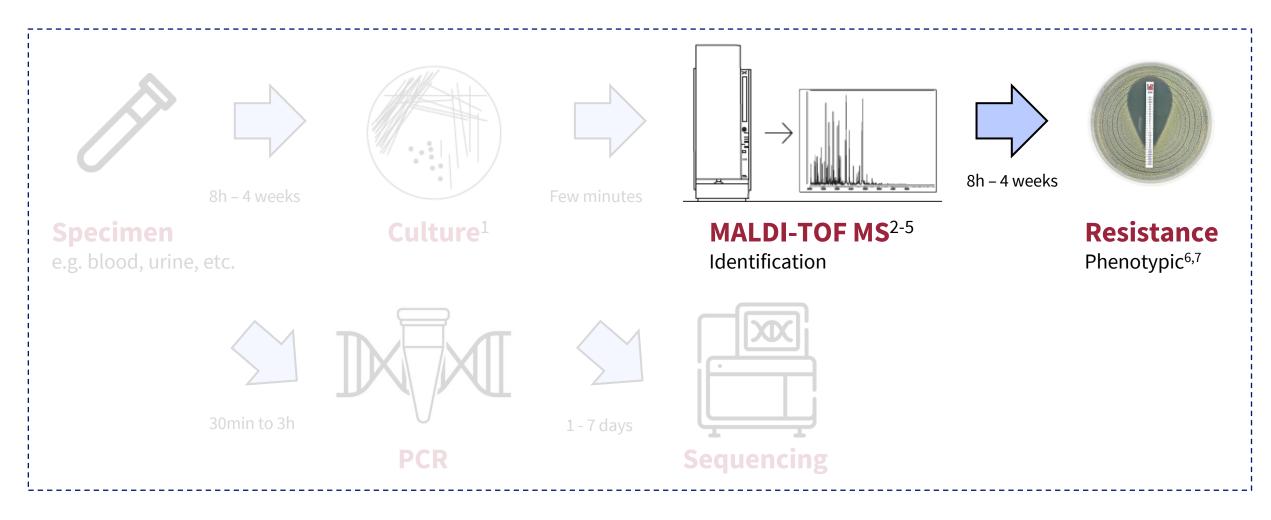
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University of Zurich

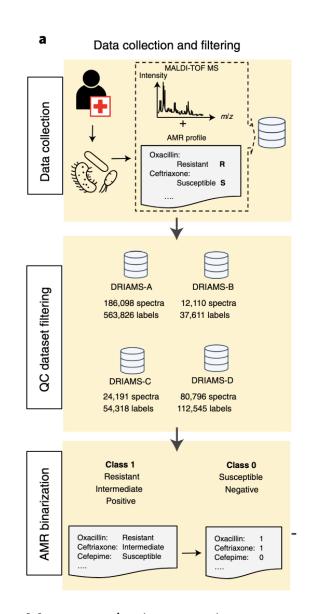
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Zurich



# Can we predict AMR profiles directly from MALDI-TOF?





Dr. C. Weis

Dr. A. Cuénod



**ETH** zürich

Caroline Weis, Bastian, Rieck, Karsten Borgwardt

Aline Cuénod, Michael Osthoff

Kirstine K. Soegaard, Adrian Egli



Claudia Lang, Olivier Dubuis



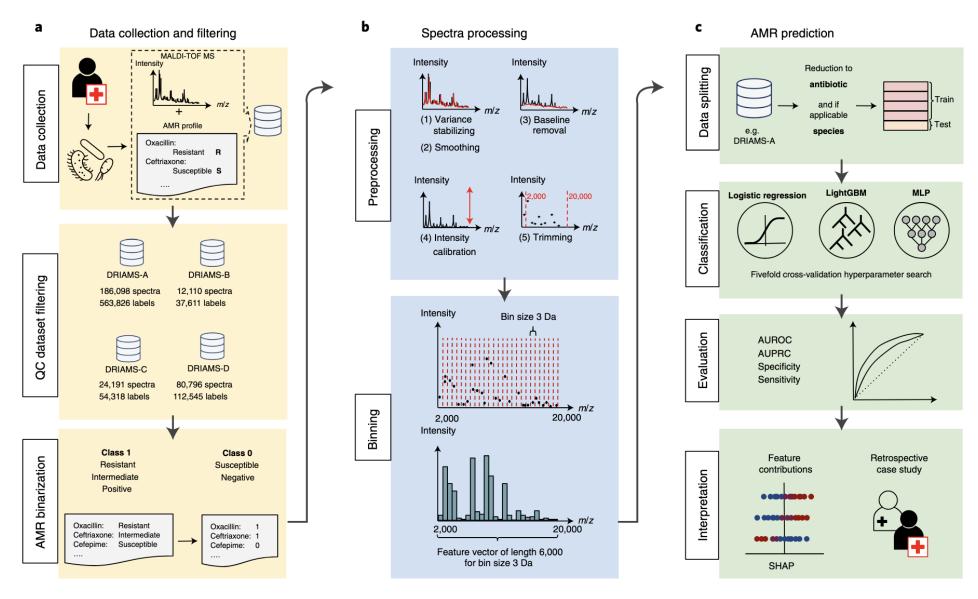
Michael Oberle

Kantonsspital **Baselland** 

Susanne Graf

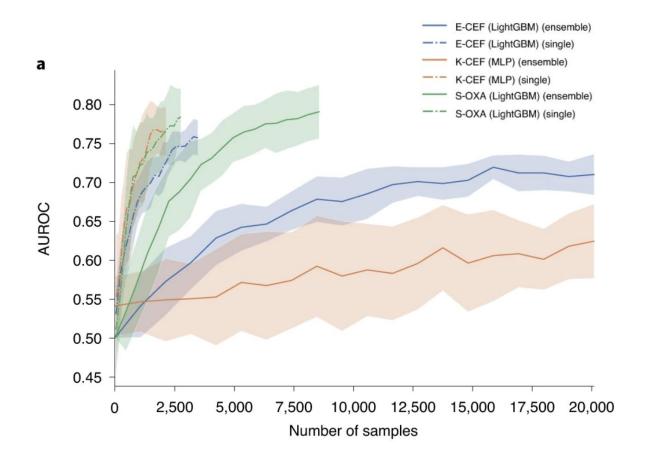
[1] Weis C, Cuénod A, ... et Egli A, Nature Med 2021; [2] Weis C, et al. Bioinformatics 2020

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[1] Weis C, Cuénod A, ... et Egli A, Nature Med 2021; [2] Weis C, et al. Bioinformatics 2020

#### Prediction of AMR phenotypes directly from MALDI-TOF MS



#### **Prediction of susceptibility**

		AUROC
S. aureus	Oxacillin	0.8
E. coli	Ceftriaxon	0.74
K. pneumoniae	Ceftriaxon	0.74

# → Not perfect, but promissing

DRIAMS data set is public available.

Multiple studies confirmed findings [1-8]

[1] Weis C, Cuénod A, ... et Egli A. Nature Med 2021; [2] Ren M, Chen Q, et al. Scientific Reports, 2024; [3] Astudillo CA, Lopez-Cortes XA et al. Scientific Reports 2024; [4] Nguyen HA, Peleg AY, et al. mSystems 2024; [5] Lopez-Cortes XA, Mariquez-Trocoso JM et al. Int J Mol Sci 2025; [6] De Waele G, Menschaert G, et al. Elife 2024; [7] Wang WY, Chui CF, et al. Int J Antimicrob Agents 2024; [8] Yu J, Lin HH et al. Int J Antimicrob Agents 2023

#### Conclusion.

**Time is critical** for adequat and efficient antibiotic treatments.

- Traditional culture-based diagnostics takes time.
- Resistance mechanisms are diverse and require a high degree of knowledge.
- Value-based diagnostics = (high) impact for the patient.

#### → AI has a huge potential

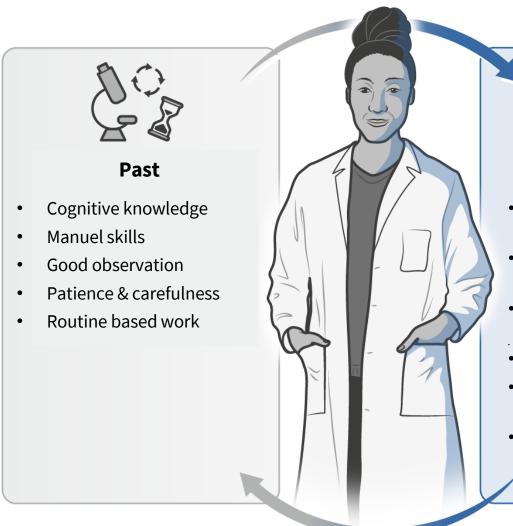
- LLMs can be used for a broad range of applications.
- Smart phone based apps can support AST interpretation.
- More sophisticated use is possible but requires large datasets for training.

... but again we **need careful evaluation** (step-by-step) – allowing ethical, legal and regulatory sound usage.

→ Stay critical regarding the usage of AI. Do not believe everything the AI tells you.

Revive Webinar: Using AI for AMR

#### What comes next...?





#### **Present and future**

- Digital research & critical thinking
- Data interpretation & bioinformatics
- Flexibility & interdisciplinary working
- Communication skills
- Quality management and regulatory knowledge
- Adaptability and resilience

- → Regular and continuous education is critical.
- → Adaptation of curricula for lab technicians and microbiologists
- → It is very likely that in 10 years, we cannot define ourselves via knowledge.

Egli Andrea & Egli Adrian, LabMag 2025, in press

#### Regulatory space...

Most diagnostics labs are nowadays ISO 15189 accredited

In Europe, AI in healthcare is a **tightly regulated space**.

- IVDR
- Al act

All shown tools cannot be used for routine applications. IVDR is a huge problem for academic labs and start ups.

There is innovation, but there is a valley of death for application.

Only large companies can handle the burden – we will run into a company dependency with AI tools.

→ How can we generate an environment in Europe, where diagnostic is value-based (for the patient) but the regulatory burden does not kill the innovation?

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# **Key messages**

- 1 The key challenges in AMR are: Knowledge and speed.
- ② Image analysis is a low hanging fruit.
- MALDI-TOF MS with Al makes huge progress, but will not replace standard testing it will provide early info.
- 4 Everything outside of the lab, including patient data, is currently a tightly regulated space.
- 5 Usage of AI has to be critically evaluated, but currently it is over regulated.
  - "The age of AI has started" Bill Gates 2022

#### **Acknowledgment**

#### **Contact:**

Prof. Adrian Egli, MD PhD Institute of Med. Microbiology University of Zurich

Email: aegli@imm.uzh.ch

in /adrian-egli-90b970b9

Website: www.appliedmicrobiologyresearch.ch

**Routine Diagnostics:** Franca Baggi, Michelle Bressan, Pauline Göller, Vladimira Hinic, Frank Imkamp, Hendrik Kolliwer Stefano Mancini, Oliver Nolte, Bettina Schulthess, Helena Seth-Smith, Tim Roloff

My research group: Diana Albertos Torres, Ana Andrade Barrios, Mehmet Bilgin, Lars Binder, Vera Bregy, Anna Diversi, Ashim Kumar Dubey, Zoey Germuskova, Mariella Greutmann, Alejandro Guerrero Lopez, Yukino Gütlin, Klara Haldimann, Sina Leutenegger, Claudia Li, Eline Meijer, Ana Gabriela Monsalve, Eleonora Pronzini, Srinithi Purushotaman, Janis Rogenmoser, Ashley Rooney, Joy Scherrer, Elisa Sosa, Kittipit Srisanoi, Araney Thrairatnam, Fanny Wegner

University Hospital Zurich: Annelies Zinkernagel and Team

**ETH Zurich:** Catherine Jutzerler, Emma Slack, Andreas Güntner, Wolf Dietrich

Hardt

Max Planck Institute Munich: Karsten Borgwardt







Contact me if you want to collaborate!

#### **Funding**











# Javier Fernández Domínguez



Javier Fernández Domínguez is co-founder and co-CEO at Pragmatech Al Solutions. A start up whose main product is iAST, an Al-based software platform for antibiotic prescribing support that has obtained the CE certification, becoming the first software of its kind to achieve this milestone.

Javier is a specialist in clinical microbiology with extensive experience in antibiotic resistance and applying innovation in artificial intelligence to infectious diseases. Between 2016 and 2025, he led the antibiotic susceptibility testing section at the Central University Hospital of Asturias (HUCA), was a founding member of the hospital's antimicrobial stewardship team, and served as principal investigator in antimicrobial resistance research within the Translational Microbiology Group at ISPA (Health Research Institute of the Principality of Asturias). He was also previously an adjunct professor at the University of Oviedo in Spain between 2022–2025.

Javier holds a degree in Pharmacy from the Complutense University of Madrid. He specialized in Clinical Microbiology at HUCA and earned his PhD from the University of Oviedo, He has sat on the editorial boards of national and international journals, published over 80 scientific articles and has received several research awards, including two PRAN awards granted by the Spanish Agency of Medicines and the Ministry of Health.



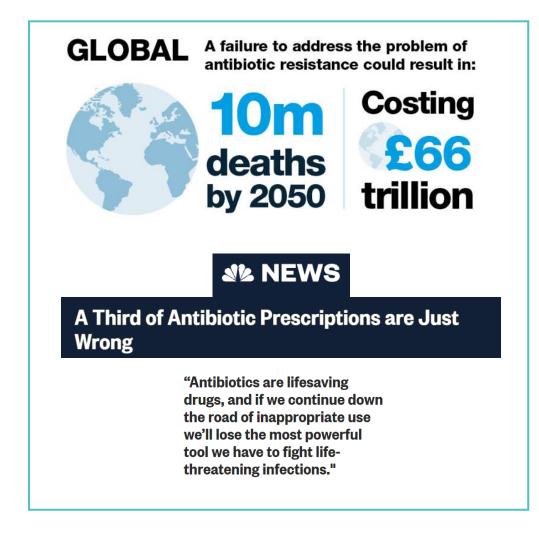
28 October 2025, 17:00-18.30 CET (12:00 pm - 13:30 pm EDT)

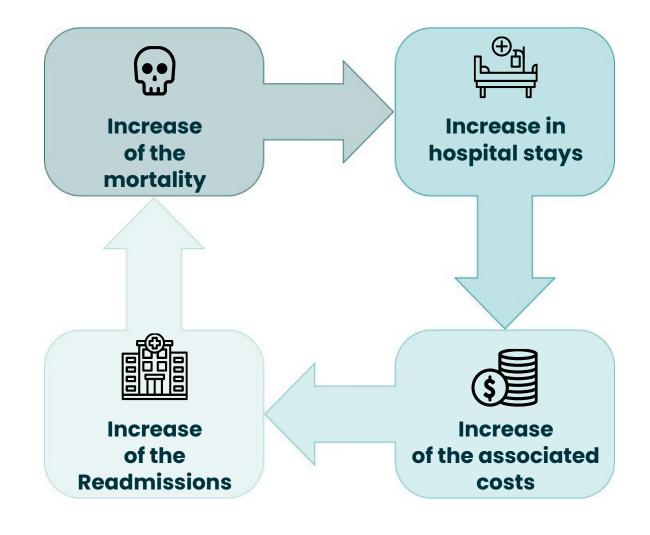
Javier Fernández Domínguez, PharmD, PhD Founder and coCEO, Pragmatech Al Solutions





## The challenge of antibiotic resistance

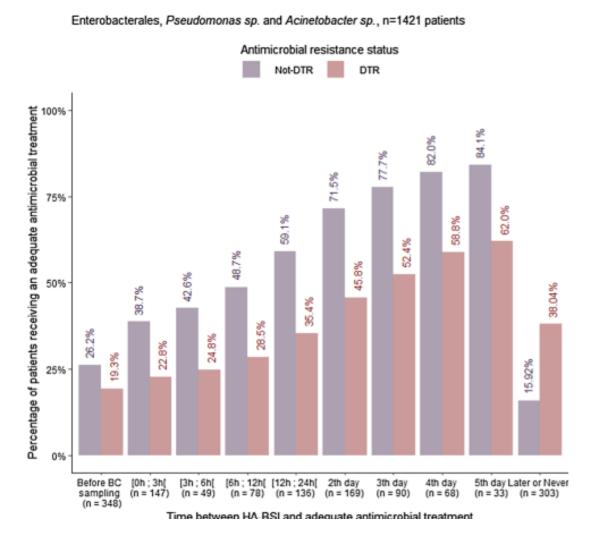






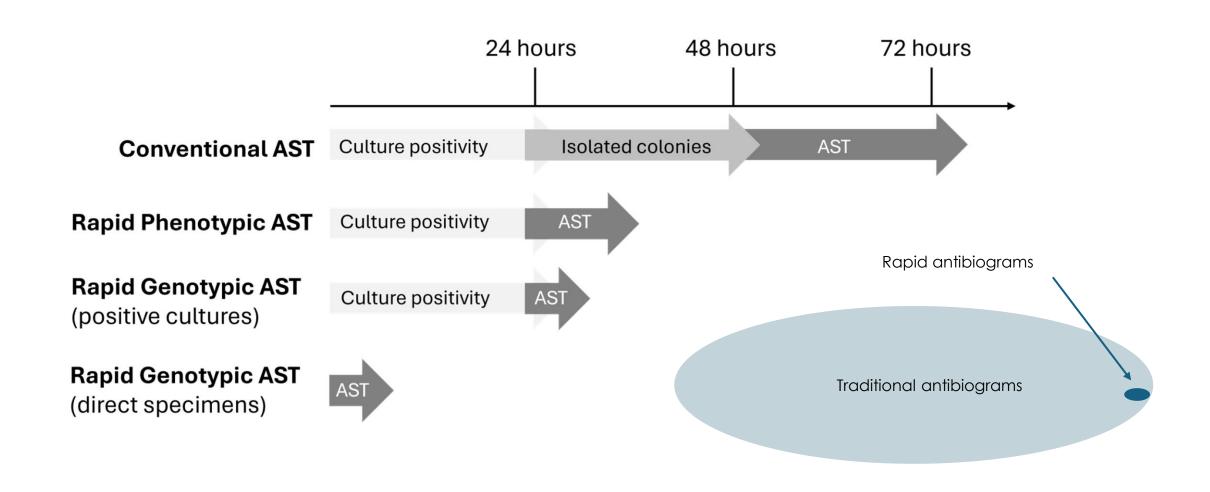
## The challenge of errors in antibiotic therapy







#### Causes of errors in antibiotic therapy: 1. Delayed microbiological results

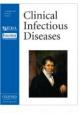


### Causes of errors in antibiotic therapy: 2. Variety in local ecology

					-						
	n	AMP	AMC	CRM	стх	CIP	SXT	GM	тов	FOS	NTF
Escherichia coli	3044	51,3	90,0	87,1	88,5	72,1	71,9	90,0	86,6	95,8	94,3
Escherichia coli BLEE	335	0,0	74,0	0,0	0,0	14,0	33,1	69,9	48,4	82,7	99,4
Klebsiella pneumoniae	578	R	85,1	83,1	86,2	79,9	85,6	94,6	91,4	NT	87,5
Klebsiella pneumoniae BLEE	75	R	42,7	0,0	0,0	12,0	21,3	62,7	41,3	NT	62,7
Proteus mirabilis	342	61,4	89,8	94,1	97,4	64,3	64,0	74,6	67,0	NT	R
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	161	R	R	R	R	87,6	R	NT	92,6	NT	R
Morganella morganii	94	R	R	R	76,2	62,8	64,9	78,7	85,1	NT	R
Enterobacter cloacae complex	77	R	R	R	71,1	85,7	75,3	93,5	93,5	NT	69,8
Klebsiella oxytoca	68	R	89,7	92,2	97,1	92,6	89,7	97,1	97,1	NT	100,0
Citrobacter freundii complex	53	R	R	R	75,5	79,3	79,3	90,6	90,6	NT	100,0
Citrobacter kaseri	68	R	97,1	88,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	NT	98,5
Klebsiella variicola	50	R	94,0	98,0	100,0	92,0	98,0	100,0	100,0	NT	98,0
Klebsiella aerogenes	45	R	R	R	88,9	93,3	100,0	97,8	95,6	NT	84,4
Providencia stuartii	35	R	R	R	77,1	8,6	80,0	R	R	NT	R

	n	AMP	AMC	CRM	стх	CIP	SXT	GM	тов	FOS	NTF
Escherichia coli	598	41,0	82,1	78,4	81,3	60,2	66,1	88,8	86,0	95,0	98,8
Escherichia coli BLEE	103	0,0	70,9	0,0	0,0	16,5	32,0	65,1	50,49	83,5	97,1
Klebsiella pneumoniae	143	R	79,7	76,6	86,7	68,5	82,5	95,1	88,8	NT	83,9
Klebsiella pneumoniae BLEE	18	R	55,6	0,0	0,0	16,8	16,7	72,2	44,4	NT	66,7
Proteus mirabilis	136	57,4	81,6	91,9	93,3	58,8	66,9	72,1	66,2	NT	R
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	155	R	R	R	R	78,7	R	87,2	89,7	NT	R
Enterobacter cloacae complex	47	R	R	R	68,1	78,7	80,9	91,5	91,5	NT	59,3
Klebsiella oxytoca	48	R	89,6	80,4	95,8	93,8	93,8	97,9	93,8	NT	91,7
Morganella morganii	56	R	R	R	75,0	57,1	64,3	83,9	82,1	NT	R
Serratia marcescens	39	R	R	R	70,3	84,6	89,7	100,0	66,7	NT	R

- Limited information
- Not well known among prescribers



Volume 69, Issue 6 15 September 2019 JOURNAL ARTICLE

The Importance of Cumulative Antibiograms in Diagnostic Stewardship

Javier Fernández ™, Fernando Vazquez

 ${\it Clinical Infectious \, Diseases}, Volume \, 69, Issue \, 6, 15 \, September \, 2019, Pages \, 1086-1087, \\$ 

https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciz082

Published: 30 January 2019



### Causes of errors in antibiotic therapy: 3. Limitations of evidence-based medicine in ID

- Inclusion and exclusion criteria leave out a certain population
- Results applicable to populations not individuals
- Thousands of uncontrolled variables: the microorganism, its virulence, its resistance...

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June 26, 2013

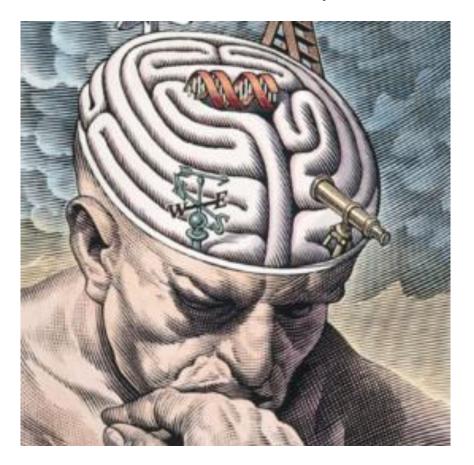
### Personalized Medicine vs Guideline-Based Medicine

Jeffrey J. Goldberger, MD, MBA; Alfred E. Buxton, MD



#### Causes of errors in antibiotic therapy: 4. Errors in medical judgments

**MEDICINE: SCIENCE/ART** 

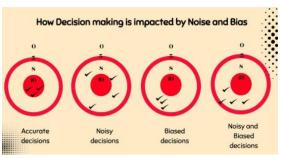




















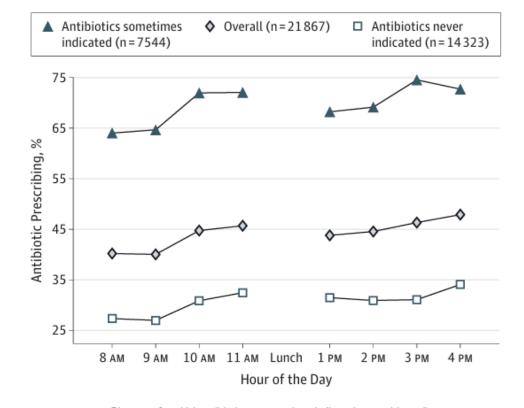
#### RESEARCH LETTER

#### Time of Day and the Decision to Prescribe Antibiotics

Jeffrey A. Linder, MD, MPH Jason N. Doctor, PhD Mark W. Friedberg, MD, MPP Harry Reyes Nieva, BA Caroline Birks, MD Daniella Meeker, PhD Craig R. Fox, PhD

Author Affiliations: Division of General Medicine and Primary Care, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts (Linder, Friedberg, Reyes Nieva); Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts (Linder, Friedberg, Reyes Nieva, Birks); Schaeffer Center for Health Policy and Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles (Doctor); RAND, Boston, Massachusetts (Friedberg); Division of General Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston (Birks); RAND, Santa Monica, California (Meeker); Anderson School of Management, University of California, Los Angeles (Fox).





Diagnoses for which antibiotics are sometimes indicated were otitis media, sinusitis, pneumonia, and streptococcal pharyngitis. Diagnoses for which antibiotics are never indicated were acute bronchitis, nonspecific upper respiratory infection, influenza, and nonstreptococcal pharyngitis. Linear trend



1. Allows
microbiological
results (including
AST) to be
anticipated and
predicted

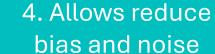
2. Allows recommendations to be adapted to local ecology data

Al to predict antibiotic susceptibility and help antibiotic prescription





3. Allows combine evidence-based medicine with a personalized approach





#### **Artificial Intelligence**

#### **Machine Learning**

#### **Deep Learning**

The subset of machine learning composed of algorithms that permit software to train itself to perform tasks, like speech and image recognition, by exposing multilayered neural networks to vast amounts of data.

A subset of AI that includes abstruse statistical techniques that enable machines to improve at tasks with experience. The category includes deep learning

Any technique that enables computers to mimic human intelligence, using logic, if-then rules, decision trees, and machine learning (including deep learning)

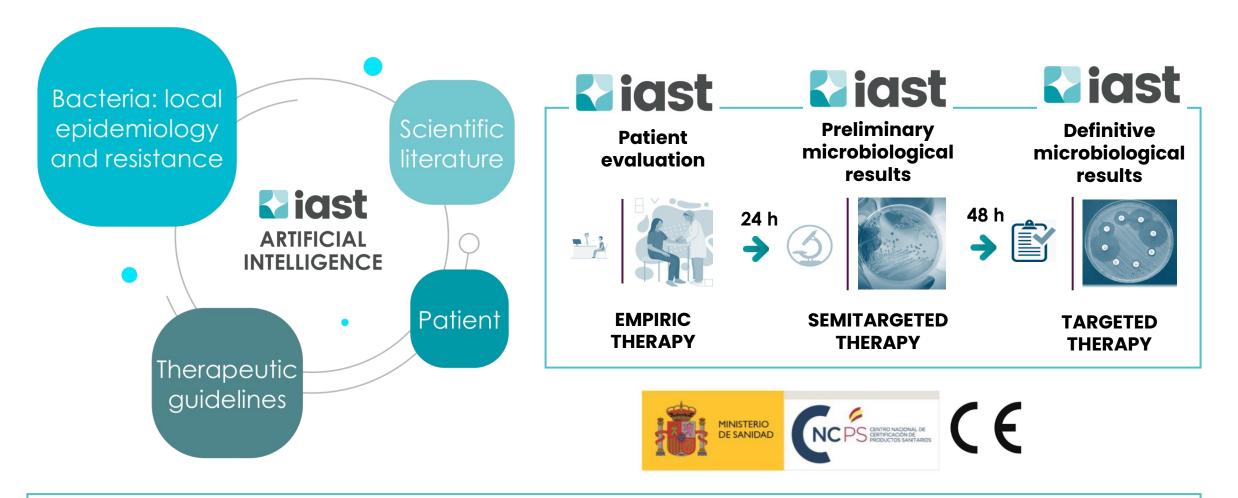
#### Al algorithms to predict antibiotic resistance

Table 1. Performance of machine learning across different studies in predicting antibiotic susceptibility patterns.

Authors	Year of Publication	Medical Setting	Geographical Setting	Input Data	ML Algorithms	Performance Evaluation	Bacterial Species
Goodman et al. [27]	2016	Hospital admissions	USA	Blood cultures/AST	Recursive partitioning, DT	PPV 0.908-NPV 0.919	Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae, Klebsiella oxytoca
Vazquez-Guillamet et al. [29]	2017	Hospital admissions	USA	EHR data/Blood cultures/AST	Recursive partitioning, DT	AUC 0.61-0.80	GNB
Sousa et al. [28]	2019	Hospital admissions	Spain	Clinical/demographic data/Blood cultures/AST	DT	AUC 0.76	BL-GNB
Moran et al. [20]	2020	Hospital admissions and primary care	UK	Blood/urine cultures	XGBoost	AUC 0.70	Escherichia coli, Klebsiella pneumoniae and Pseudomonas aeruginosa
Feretzakis et al. [33]	2020	Medical wards	Greece	Demographics/Cultures/AST/Bacterial Gram stain/Type of sample	MLR	AUC 0.758	All isolated bacterial species
Feretzakis et al. [34]	2020	Intensive Care Unit	Greece	Demographics/Cultures/AST/Bacterial Gram stain/Type of sample	LR, RF, k-NN, J48, MLP	AUC 0.726	All isolated bacterial species
Feretzakis et al. [35]	2021	Intensive Care Unit	Greece	Demographics/Cultures/AST/Bacterial Gram stain/Type of sample	JRip, RF, MLP, Class. Regr, REPTree	F-measure 0.884, AUC 0.933	Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Acinetobacter baumannii, Klebsiella pneumoniae
Martínez-Agüero et al. [36]	2019	Intensive Care Unit	Spain	Demographics/Clinical data/Type of sample/Cultures/AST	LR, k-NN, DT, RF, MLP	Accuracy for quinolone resistance $88.1 \pm 1.6$	Pseudomonas, Strenotrophomonas, Enterococcus
McGuire et al. [5]	2021	Hospital admissions	USA	Demographic, medication, vital sign, laboratory, billing code, procedure, culture, and sensitivity data (67 features)	XGBoost	AUC 0.846	Bacterial isolates with CR
Pascual-Sánchez et al. [32]	2021	Intensive Care Unit	Spain	EHR data	LR, DT, RF, XGBoost, MLP	AUC 0.76	MDR bacteria
Garcia-Vidal et al. [31]	2021	FN Hematological Patients	Spain	EHR data	RF, GBM, XGBoost, GLM	AUC 0.79	MDR-Pseudomonas aeruginosa/ ESBL-E
Henderson et al. [30]	2022	HIV patients	USA	EHR data	PLR, naïve Bayes, gradient boosting, SVM, RF	AUC 0.70	MDR-E



#### Al algorithms to predict antibiotic resistance: iAST® (Pragmatech Al Solutions)





#### iAST® clinical evaluation



ANTIMICROBIAL STEWARDSHIP

October 2024 Volume 68 Issue 10 e00777-24 https://doi.org/10.1128/aac.00777-24

Retrospective validation study of a machine learningbased software for empirical and organism-targeted antibiotic therapy selection

Maria Isabel Tejeda<sup>1</sup>, Javier Fernández (b 2,3,4,5), Pablo Valledor<sup>2</sup>, Cristina Almirall<sup>6</sup>, José Barberán<sup>1,7</sup>, Santiago Romero-Brufau (b 2,8,9)

La AEMPS anuncia los ganadores de la IV edición de los premios del Plan Nacional frente a la Resistencia a los Antibióticos

EVIAST Project: Clinical evaluation of iAST®, presented by Pragmatech AI Soluctions S.L., in the category of "Best initiative in surveillance and control of antibiotic consumption and resistance in the field of human health".



Tejeda MI, Fernández J, Valledor P, Almirall C, Barberán J, Romero-Brufau S. O. Retrospective validation study of a machine learning-based software for empirical and organism-targeted antibiotic therapy selection. Antimicrob Agents Chemother 0:e00777-24. https://doi.org/10.1128/aac.00777-24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Infectious Diseases Unit, Hospital Universitario HM Montepríncipe, Madrid, Spain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Research and Innovation Department, Pragmatech Al Solutions, Oviedo, Spain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Microbiology Department, Hospital Universitario Central de Asturias, Oviedo, Spain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Microbiology and Infectious Pathology, ISPA, Oviedo, Spain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Functional Biology Department, Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain

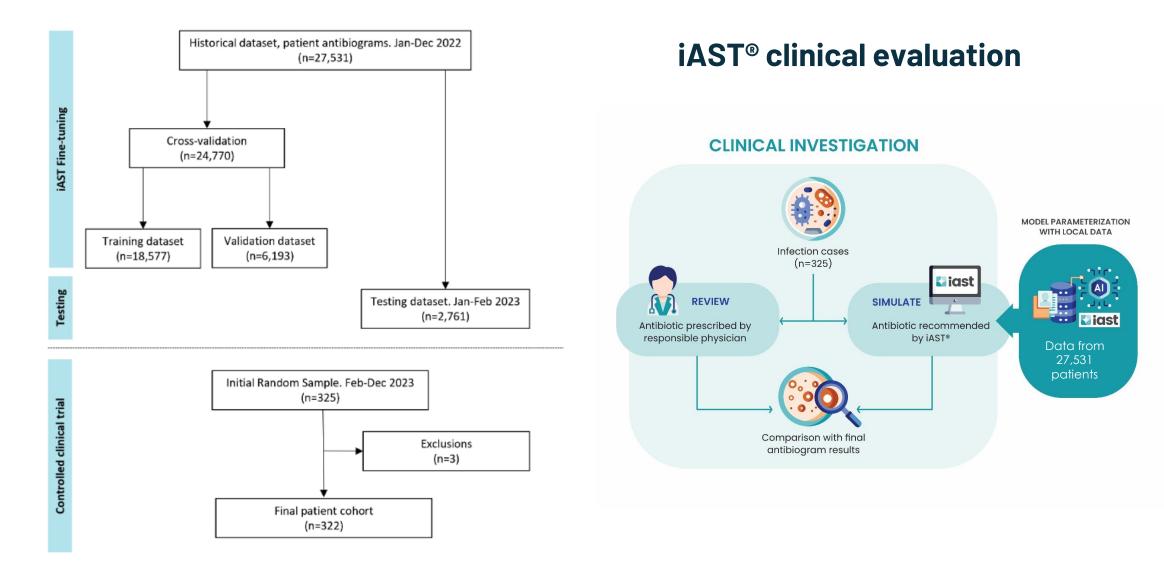
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Department of Laboratory Medicine, HM Hospitales, Madrid, Spain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>HM Faculty of Health Sciences, University Camilo Jose Cela, Madrid, Spain

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota, USA

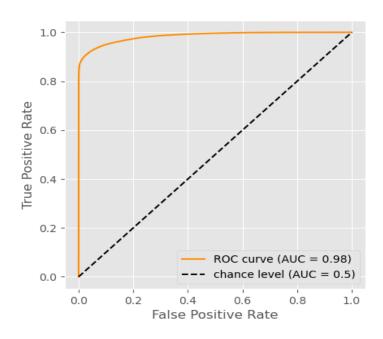
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>Department of Biostatistics, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

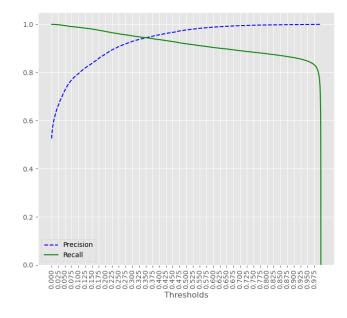






#### iAST® model performance metrics





#### Validation dataset

Precision: 97%

Recall (sensitivity): 97%

• Log loss: 0.143

#### **Testing dataset**

Precision: 97%

Recall (sensitivity): 97%

Log loss: 0.148

TABLE 1 Main features of patients and infections included in the study

Characteristic	Value
Age (mean)	68.87
Gender	
Female	136 (42.24)
Male	186 (57.76)
Hospital attention	
Emergency department (outpatients)	120 (37.27)
Hospitalization	202 (62.73)
Hospitalization ward	
Anesthesia/postoperative intensive care unit	1 (0.49)
Gastroenterology/general surgery	1 (0.49)
General intensive care unit	65 (32.18)
Hematology	1 (0.49)
Internal medicine/infectious diseases	129 (63.86)
Neurology/neurosurgery	2 (0.99)
Oncology	2 (0.99)
Orthopedics/traumatology	1 (0.49)
Type of infection	
Bacteremia/sepsis	93 (28.88)
Urinary tract infection	73 (22.67)
Complicated <sup>a</sup>	57 (78.08)
Uncomplicated <sup>a</sup>	16 (21.91)
Nosocomial lower respiratory infection	69 (21.43)
Pneumonia	52 (75.36)
Ventilator-associated pneumonia	38 (73.07)
No ventilator-associated pneumonia	14 (26.92)
Tracheobronchitis	17 (24.64)
Others <sup>b</sup>	87 (27.02)
Bone and joint infection	6 (6.89)
Gastrointestinal infection	7 (8.05)
Lower respiratory system infection <sup>c</sup>	2 (2.29)
Reproductive tract infection	2 (2.29)
Skin and soft tissue infection	42 (48.28)
Surgical site infection	28 (32.18)



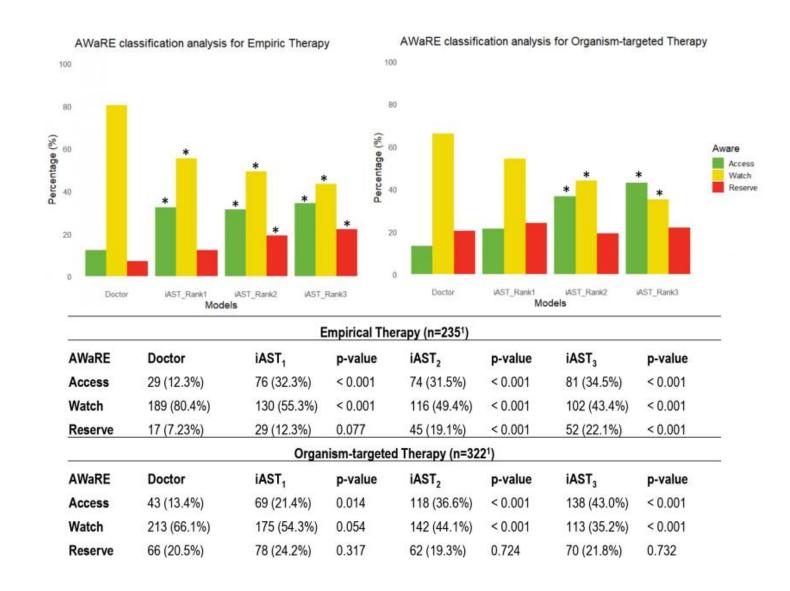
iAST® was shown to reduce overall medical errors in empirical treatment from 31.1% to 8.9%

		<b>Patients included</b> n=325		3 Screen failures <sup>1</sup>
Site of infection	Bacteremia / Sepsis n = 93	Urinary tract infection n = 73	Pneumonia / VAT n = 69	Other infections <sup>2</sup> n = 87
		Empiric therapy <sup>3</sup>	achievement rate	
Doctor prescription	65 (69.9%)	56 (76.7%)	41 (59.4%)	
1st iAST® choice	87 (93.5%) (p<0.001)	66 (90.4%) (p=0.044)	61 (88.4%) (p<0.001)	
2nd iAST® choice	88 (94.6%) (p<0.001)	67 (91.8%) (p=0.023)	58 (84.1%) (p=0.002)	
3rd iAST® choice	84 (90.3%) (p<0.001)	70 (95.9%) (p=0.002)	60 (87.0%) (p<0.001)	
		Semi-targeted thera	py⁴ achievement rate	
Doctor prescription	78 (83.9%)	65 (89.0%)	51 (73.9%)	77 (88.5%)
1st iAST® choice	90 (96.8%) (p=0.006)	71 (97.3%) (p=0.101)	68 (98.6%) (p<0.001)	87 (98.9%) (p=0.013)
2nd iAST® choice	88 (94.6%) (p=0.033)	68 (93.2%) (p=0.561)	63 (91.3%) (p=0.013)	84 (96.6%) (p=0.084)
3rd iAST® choice	82 (88.2%) (p=0.526)	67 (91.8%) (p=0.779)	62 (89.9%) (p=0.027)	82 (95.4%) (p=0.163)

The figure shows the percentages of success of the physicians and of iAST® (first three recommendations of the ranking) for each type of infection in empirical and semi-targeted treatment, with the difference being statistically significant (p<0.001) in most cases.



THE 1ST OPTION OF IAST® REDUCES THE WATCH FROM 80%
TO 55% AND
INCREASES ACCESS
FROM 12% TO 32%





#### iAST® features



1. EMPIRIC ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY



5. INCIDENCE DENSITY MDR
BACTERIA



2. SEMI-TARGETED ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY



6. CONSUMPTION MONITORING (DDD)



3. PRESCRIPTION ALERTS



**4. CUMULATIVE AST REPORTS** 



7. CONSUMPTION MONITORING (DOT)





#### **Conclusions**

- The mathematical performance metrics of the iAST® model have exhibited robust values, surpassing those of any other published algorithm to date.
- Clinical research conducted has demonstrated that iAST ® can significantly mitigate physician errors in empirical and semi-targeted antibiotic therapy, while concurrently fostering antimicrobial stewardship.
- Reducing errors in early antibiotic therapy holds the potential for enhanced infection outcomes, cost savings within healthcare systems, and combating antibiotic resistance.

• Further prospective studies are warranted to corroborate iAST® performance across diverse epidemiological settings and to quantitatively assess its benefits.



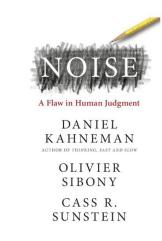


Javier Fernández Domínguez, PharmD, PhD Founder and coCEO, Pragmatech Al Solutions









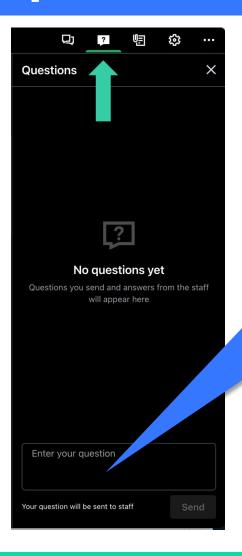
"Most people are surprised to learn that the accuracy of their predictive judgments is not only low, but also inferior to that of formulas. Even simple models built from limited data, or simple rules that can be written on a napkin, consistently outperform human judges. The fundamental advantage of rules and models is that they are noisefree. [...] It is difficult for us to imagine that simple rules applied in an almost automatic way are often more exact than we are."

Daniel Kahneman

# How to submit your questions



If your question is addressed to a specific speaker, please include their name when submitting the question.



Please submit your questions through the box provided after clicking the 'questions' button. We will review all questions and respond to as many as possible after the presentation.

# Today's speakers





# Using artificial intelligence to analyse and predict susceptibility to antimicrobials



Moderator:
Margo Diricks
Postdoctoral researcher,
Research Center Borstel –
Leibniz Lung Center (Germany)



Adrian Egli
Director, Institute of
Medical Microbiology,
University of Zürich
(Switzerland)



Javier Fernández
Domínguez
Co-founder and co-CEO,
Pragmatech Al Solutions
(Spain)



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## 2025 Antibacterial Therapeutics Funding Round



# Up to £6m initially available to support up to eight projects

focused on developing new antibacterial treatments for the most threatening microbes and resistance mechanisms

Up to £1M per project & 2 years in length

Innovative, higher risk projects of smaller scales are highly encouraged to apply

Deadline for Eol submission: 23:59 (GMT) on 5 November

Aim to provide participants with funding and support that secures delivery of key data for onward development and investment

The portfolio will be actively managed. Projects will receive support and advice from the PACE team

Visit paceamr.org.uk/funding for full details of scope and to apply.







# Thank you for joining us