

- The reported “seesaw effect” demonstrates improved β -lactam activity when glycopeptide/lipopeptide susceptibility decreases though minimal data exists evaluating the “seesaw effect” with the anti-MRSA cephalosporin ceftaroline.
- 150 clinical bloodstream MRSA isolates were randomly chosen from the Anti-infective Research Laboratory (Detroit, MI, USA) for evaluation of the “seesaw” effect between ceftaroline, daptomycin, teicoplanin and vancomycin.
- Additionally, 4 isogenic strain pairs were selected to evaluate by time-kill methodology for the potential for enhanced killing with ceftaroline as minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC)s increased to vancomycin, teicoplanin, and daptomycin.
- Positive MIC correlations were found between all glyco- and lipopeptides, vancomycin, daptomycin and teicoplanin. Inverse MIC correlations were found between ceftaroline and all other agents representing a marked “seesaw effect”.
- In time-kill evaluations, ceftaroline demonstrated greater reductions in $\log_{10}$ CFU/mL against mutant strains (3.73 ± 0.67) versus parents (2.79 ± 0.75) despite no change in ceftaroline MIC ($P=0.112$).

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