



12 August 2016

To: Recipients of M45, 3rd ed.

From: Jennifer K. Adams, MT(ASCP), MSHA

Subject: Updated/New Breakpoints Added for *Bacillus anthracis* in CLSI Document M45

This notification is to inform you of updated penicillin breakpoints and new amoxicillin breakpoints for *B. anthracis* in CLSI document M45, 3rd ed., *Methods for Antimicrobial Dilution and Disk Susceptibility Testing of Infrequently Isolated or Fastidious Bacteria*.

The new breakpoints for *B. anthracis* are shown in the Table 21 excerpt below:

**Table 21. Potential Bacterial Agents of Bioterrorism: *Bacillus anthracis*, *Yersinia pestis*, *Burkholderia mallei*, *Burkholderia pseudomallei*, *Francisella tularensis*, and *Brucella* spp.**

| Organism Group      | Antimicrobial Agent | MIC Interpretive Criteria (µg/mL) |   |       | Comments  |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-------|---|
|                     |                     | S                                 | I | R     |   |
| <b>PENICILLINS</b>  |                     |                                   |   |       |   |
| <i>B. anthracis</i> | Amoxicillin         | ≤0.12                             | – | ≥0.25 | (9) Amoxicillin may be considered for prophylactic use in children and pregnant or lactating women. |
|                     | Penicillin          | ≤0.5                              | – | ≥1    |   |

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