

CLINICAL PROFILE AND OUTCOMES AMONG PATIENTS WITH ELIZABETHKINGIA MENINGOSEPTICA INFECTIONS: A SINGLE CENTER TERTIARY HOSPITAL STUDY

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INTRODUCTION

- Elizabethkingia meningoseptica* is a Gram-negative, aerobic bacillus and an emerging hospital-acquired pathogen.
- Commonly isolated from water supplies and medical devices.
- Exhibits intrinsic resistance to many antibiotics, including beta-lactams, aminoglycosides, and carbapenems
- Associated with high mortality, especially among immunocompromised patients.
- Cases have been reported worldwide, but no published reports exist from Southeast Asia or other resource-limited countries.

METHODOLOGY

This is a descriptive retrospective study of the demographic profile and clinical outcomes of patients with *Elizabethkingia meningoseptica* infections at the St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City, Philippines from January 2018 and June 2023.

RESULTS

- Fifteen patients were identified, mostly older adults (mean age 69.7)
- Comorbidities were associated with all 15 cases. Most common are diabetes mellitus (n=10, 67.7%) and hematologic malignancy (n=7, 46.7%)
- Major risk factors included recent hospitalization (n=12, 80%), ICU admission (n=12, 80%), and acute renal failure (n=10, 67.7%).
- Infections were primarily nosocomial.
- Most patients (80%) received combination therapy with 2 or more antimicrobials.
- The average length of hospital stay was **79 days** (range, 14–345 days).
- Mortality was **46.7%**, while 53.3% achieved microbiological clearance.

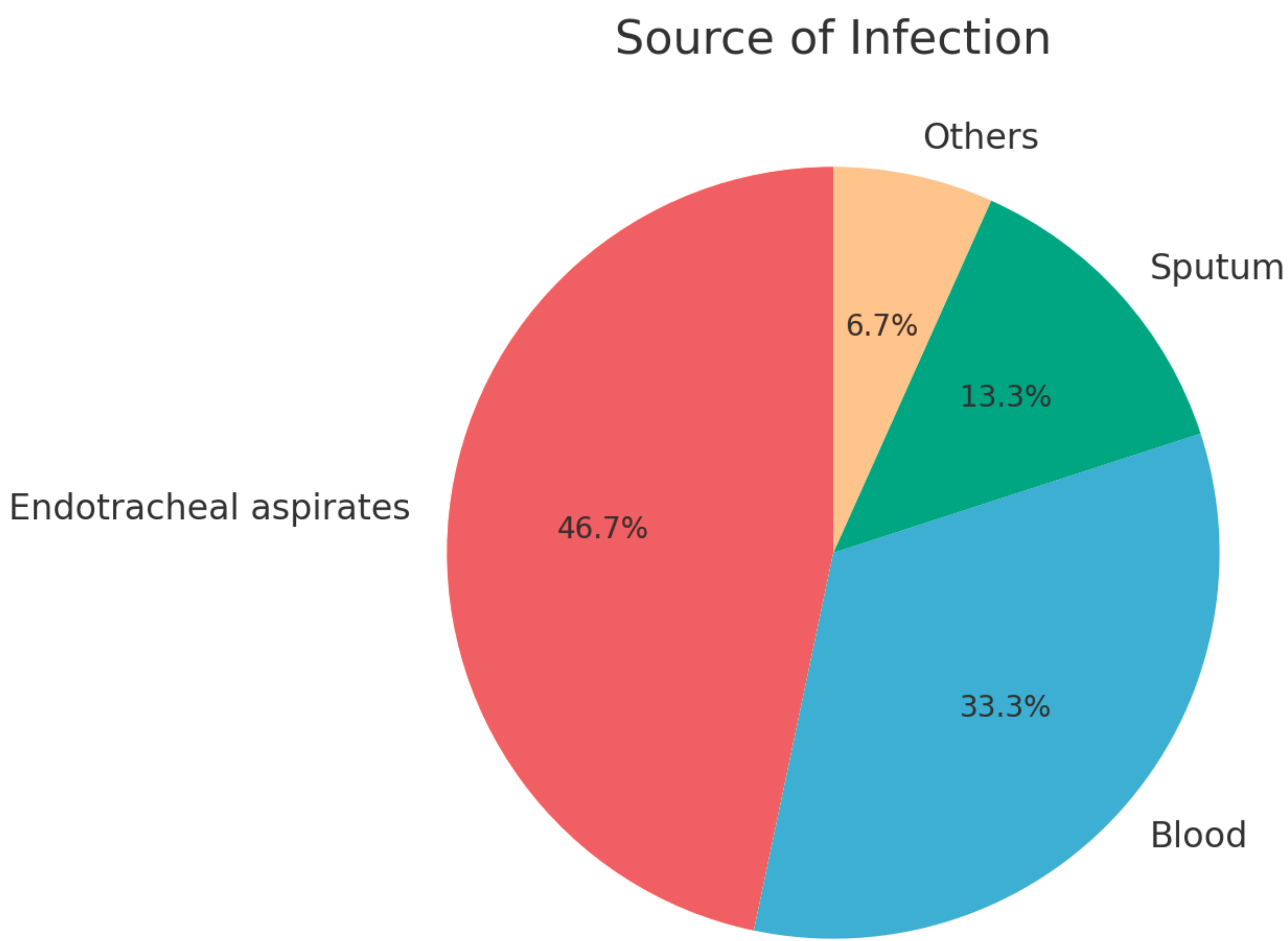


Figure 1. Sites of Isolation for *Elizabethkingia meningoseptica* from 2018-2023.

CONCLUSION

- E. meningoseptica* infections, though rare, pose serious risks in critically ill older adults.
- High resistance rates and diagnostic challenges demand timely diagnosis, susceptibility testing, and combination therapy.
- In low-resource settings, limited options may compromise care, underscoring the need for clinician awareness and strict infection control.

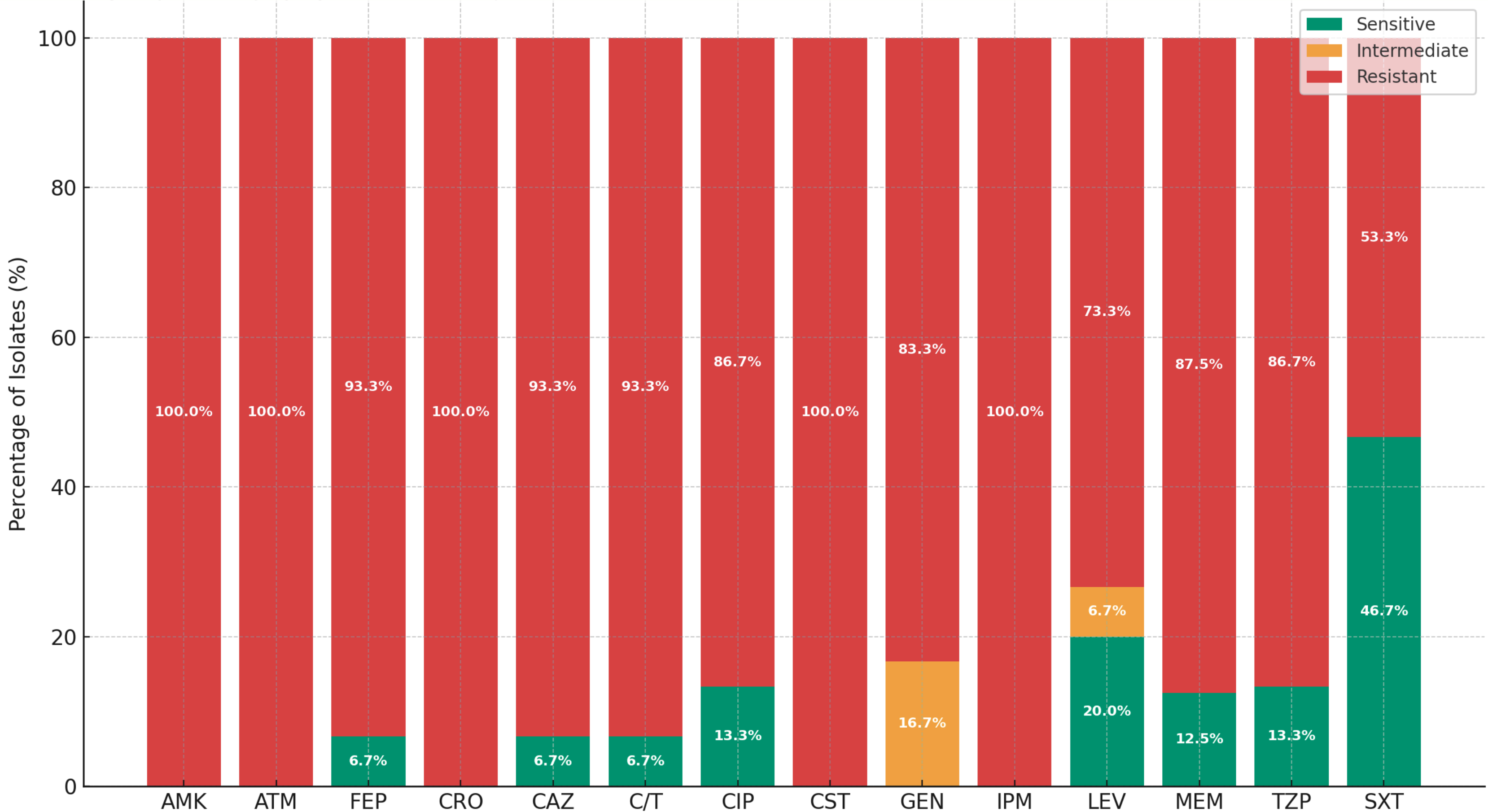


Figure 2. Antimicrobial Patterns of *Elizabethkingia meningoseptica* isolates from various samples from 2018-2023.