

Real-World Usage, Efficacy, and Microbiological Features of Ceftazidime-Avibactam in Clinical Practice in China

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Background and Objectives

- Infections caused by multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacilli (MDR-GNB) and extensively drug-resistant gram-negative bacilli (XDR-GNB) are difficult-to-treat and associated with high morbidity, mortality, and increased medical burden, posing a serious public health problem and highlighting the urgent need for new antimicrobial agents against MDR-GNB^{1,2}
- Ceftazidime-avibactam (CAZ-AVI)** has been increasingly used in treating infections caused by multidrug-resistant (MDR) pathogens^{1,3}
- This study was conducted to characterize the real-world usage of CAZ-AVI in China

Methods

Study design

- This **multicenter prospective observational study** enrolled hospitalized adult patients who received ≥ 1 dose of CAZ-AVI in China
- Clinical data were collected from the time of the first dose of CAZ-AVI until death, withdrawal of the study, or 60 days following hospital discharge (whichever came first) (Figure 1)
- Clinical and microbiological outcomes** were evaluated among patients with ≥ 72 hours of CAZ-AVI treatment at end of treatment (EOT)

Critical enrollment criteria

- Initiate ≥ 1 dose of CAZ-AVI during hospitalization
- Aged ≥ 18 years old at the time of the informed consent signature

Results

- A total of **220** adult patients meeting the eligibility criteria were enrolled from 20 October 2022 to 29 February 2024, of whom **214** received a treatment of CAZ-AVI for at least 72 hours
- 150/220 (68.2%) patients were male, with a **mean age of 62.4 (± 16.7)** years (Table 1)
- The most common CAZ-AVI indications were **pneumonia (142/220, 64.5%)**, **complicated intra-abdominal infection (cIAI) (37/220, 16.8%)** and **bloodstream infection (16/220, 7.3%)**

Figure 2. Antibiotic treatment for current infection before CAZ-AVI (n=220)

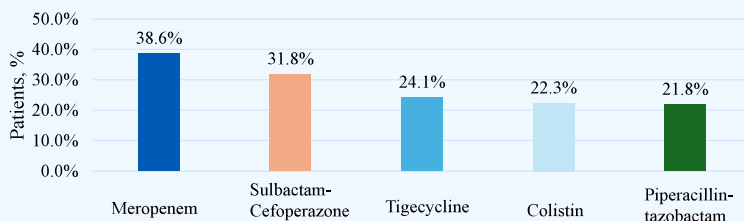
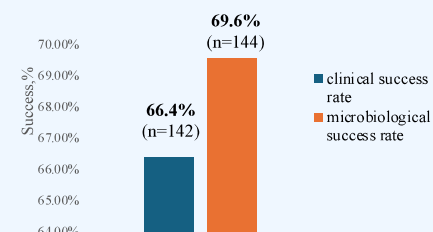


Figure 4 Clinical Success Rate (Clinically Evaluable Analysis Set^a, n=214) and Microbiological Success Rate (Microbiologically Evaluable Analysis Set^b, n=208) at EOT



^aIncludes all patients who received at least 72 hours of CAZ-AVI with at least 1 non-missing clinical outcome.

^bIncludes all patients who received at least 72 hours of CAZ-AVI and had at least 1 non-missing microbiological outcome.

- The median length of hospital stay (LOS) was **36.0** days and the median LOS in intensive care unit was **25.0** days; the all-cause in-hospital mortality was **9.8%**
- At EOT (Figure 4):
 - Among 214 patients who received CAZ-AVI for at least 72 hours and were included in the clinically evaluable analysis set, **clinical success was achieved in 66.4%**
 - Among 208 patients who received CAZ-AVI for at least 72 hours and were included in the microbiologically evaluable analysis set, **microbiological success was achieved in 69.6%**

- Overall, **227** pathogens were isolated, wherein 95 were delivered and analyzed at the central laboratory
- K. pneumoniae*** (129 isolates, 56.8%) was the most identified pathogen, followed by ***P. aeruginosa*** (33 isolates, 14.5%) (Figure 3)
- Among 116 ***K. pneumoniae*** isolates tested, **101 (87.1%)** were **resistant to meropenem**; among 25 ***P. aeruginosa*** isolates tested, **18 (72.0%)** were resistant.
- 51 out of 52** carbapenemase-producing ***K. pneumoniae*** isolates carried Serine- β -lactamase gene (one remained undetermined), and **6 of them co-harbored Metallo- β -lactamase genes**.

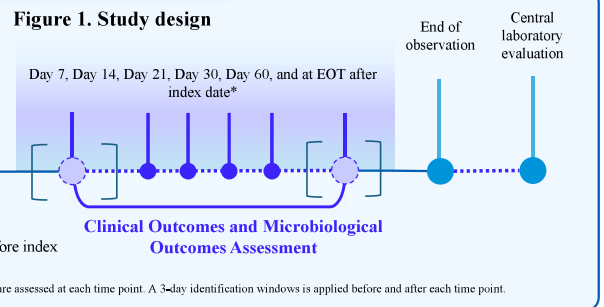
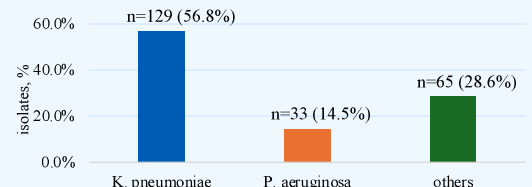


Table 1. Baseline characteristics of patients (n=220)

Age, years (\pm SD)	62.4 (16.7)
Sex, n (%)	
Male	150 (68.2)
Female	70 (31.8)
BMI, kg/m ² (\pm SD)	22.5 (4.0)
DCCI score (\pm SD)	3.8 (3.3)
APACHE II score	20.7 (8.4)
SOFA score	8.5 (4.5)
Risk factor, n (%)	
Glucocorticoids (≥ 10 mg Prednisone daily)	43 (19.5)
Immunosuppressants	27 (12.3)
Hypoalbuminemia (<30 g/L)	115 (52.3)
History of radiotherapy/chemotherapy	18 (8.2)
Leukopenia	9 (4.1)
Medications received within 30 days prior to initiation of CAZ-AVI	145 (65.9)

- The majority of patients had **received other antibiotics for the current infection prior to the initiation of CAZ-AVI (n=180, 81.8%)**; the most frequently reported was **meropenem (n=85, 38.6%)** (Figure 2)
- 75% of patients received **definitive therapy of CAZ-AVI**, while 25% received empiric therapy
- The **average (\pm SD) duration of CAZ-AVI use was 13.7 (9.89) days**
- 80.0% (n=176) of patients received CAZ-AVI in combination with other antibiotics, most commonly with **tigecycline (68/220, 30.9%)** was followed by **colistin (45/220, 20.5%)** and **vancomycin (35/220, 15.9%)**

Figure 3. Microbiological results at baseline (n=227)



Conclusion

- This is the **largest real-world study of CAZ-AVI in China**, focusing on its use in Chinese patients
- This study provides valuable data on real-world use of CAZ-AVI in China, highlighting its role as an effective treatment for MDR pathogens

Reference: 1. Soriano, A., et al. *Infect Dis Ther* 12, 891–917 (2023). 2. Canton R, et al. *Clin Microbiol Infect*. 2012;18(5):413–31. 3. Piroth L, et al. *Infectious Diseases Nov* 2025;55(2):105036

Abbreviation : APACHE, Acute Physiology and Chronic Health Evaluation; BMI, body-mass Index; CAI, community-acquired infection; CAP, community-acquired pneumonia; CAZ-AVI, ceftazidime/avibactam; cIAI, complicated intra-abdominal infection; DCCI, Deyo-Charlson comorbidity index; EOT, end of treatment; HAI, hospital-acquired infection; HAP, hospital-acquired pneumonia; LOS, length of hospital stay; MDR-GNB, multidrug-resistant gram-negative bacteria; SD, standard deviation; SOAF, Sequential Organ Failure Assessment; TID, three times a day; VAP, Ventilator associated pneumonia; XDR-GNB, extensively drug-resistant gram-negative bacteria

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