

Introduction

Avibactam is a β -lactamase inhibitor with potent inhibitory activity against Class A, Class C, and some Class D serine β -lactamases. The combination of ceftazidime with avibactam has been approved for several indications caused by gram-negative bacteria. This study examined the *in vitro* activity of ceftazidime-avibactam and comparators against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* collected worldwide through the Antimicrobial Testing Leadership and Surveillance (ATLAS) global surveillance program [1] in 2020-2023 compared to the activity of ceftolozane-tazobactam.

Methods

28,138 non-duplicate *P. aeruginosa* isolates were collected from 209 sites/55 countries worldwide (excluding North America and China) as part of the ATLAS surveillance program from 2020 to 2023. Isolates were collected from (n/% of total): Europe (14,244/50.6%), Asia/S. Pacific (6,446/22.9%), Latin America (4,592/16.3%), and Africa/Middle East (2,856/10.2%). Susceptibility testing was done using broth microdilution following CLSI guidelines [2] and interpreted using CLSI 2025 breakpoints [3]. PCR and sequencing were used to identify metallo- β -lactamase (MBL) genes among all isolates testing with meropenem MIC >1 μ g/mL [4].

Results

Table 1. *In vitro* activity of ceftazidime-avibactam, ceftolozane-tazobactam, and comparators against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and select phenotypes/genotypes

| Phenotype/ Genotype (n) | CAZ-AVI | | CAZ | | C/T | | Drug MEM | | TZP | | LVX | | CST | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | MIC ₉₀ | %S | MIC ₉₀ | %S | MIC ₉₀ | %S | MIC ₉₀ | %S | MIC ₉₀ | %S | MIC ₉₀ | %S | MIC ₉₀ | %I ^a |
| All PA (28,138) | 16 | 89.7 | 64 | 77.8 | 8 | 88.6 | 16 | 75.5 | >64 | 74.2 | >8 | 69.8 | 1 | 99.7 |
| MEM NS (6,902) | >64 | 61.6 | >64 | 38.8 | >16 | 58.7 | >16 | 0 | >64 | 30.3 | >8 | 26.6 | 1 | 99.5 |
| MBL-neg (1,473) | 32 | 79.2 | >64 | 50 | >16 | 77.1 | >16 | 0.1 | >64 | 39.8 | >8 | 34.8 | 1 | 99.7 |
| All, no MBL (27,710) | 8 | 91.0 | 64 | 79 | 8 | 90.0 | 16 | 76.6 | >64 | 75.3 | >8 | 70.8 | 1 | 99.8 |
| All, CT NS (3,208) | >64 | 21.9 | >64 | 4.7 | >16 | 0 | >16 | 11.1 | >64 | 6.4 | >8 | 12.1 | 1 | 99.2 |
| All, CAZ-AVI R (2,910) | >64 | 0 | >64 | 0.4 | >16 | 13.8 | >16 | 9.0 | >64 | 4.5 | >8 | 10.8 | 1 | 99.3 |

MIC₉₀ in μ g/mL; CAZ-AVI, ceftazidime-avibactam; CAZ, ceftazidime; C/T, ceftolozane-tazobactam; MEM, meropenem; TZP, piperacillin-tazobactam; LVX, levofloxacin; CST, colistin; PA, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*; S = susceptible; NS = non-susceptible; MBL = metallo- β -lactamase; NS, nonsusceptible; R = resistant

^aAs there is not a CLSI susceptible category for colistin, percent Intermediate is shown.

Figure 1. Distribution of ceftazidime-avibactam and ceftolozane-tazobactam MIC values against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (n=28,138), 2020-2023

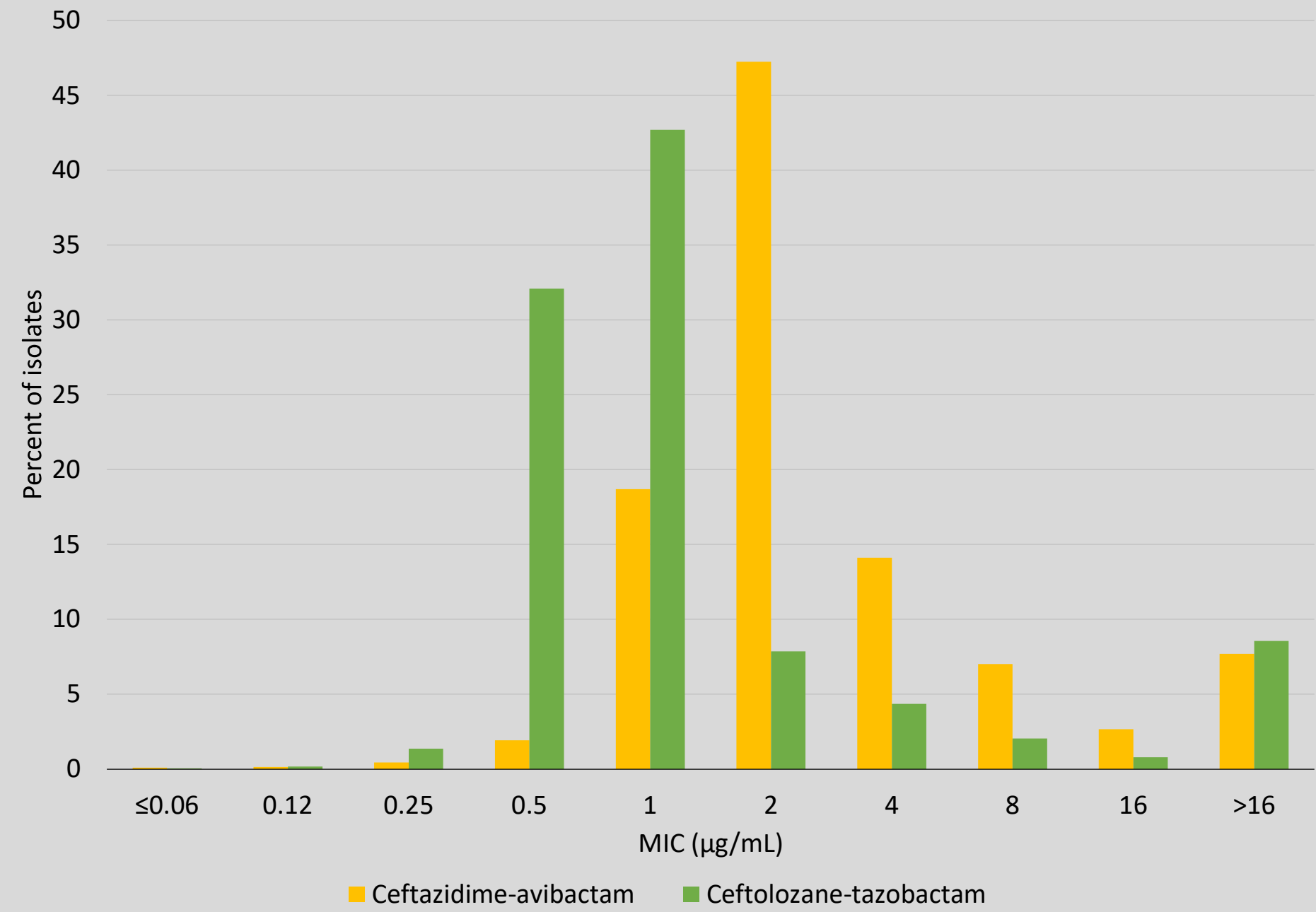


Figure 2. Distribution of ceftazidime-avibactam and ceftolozane-tazobactam MIC values against meropenem-nonsusceptible *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (n=6,902), 2020-2023

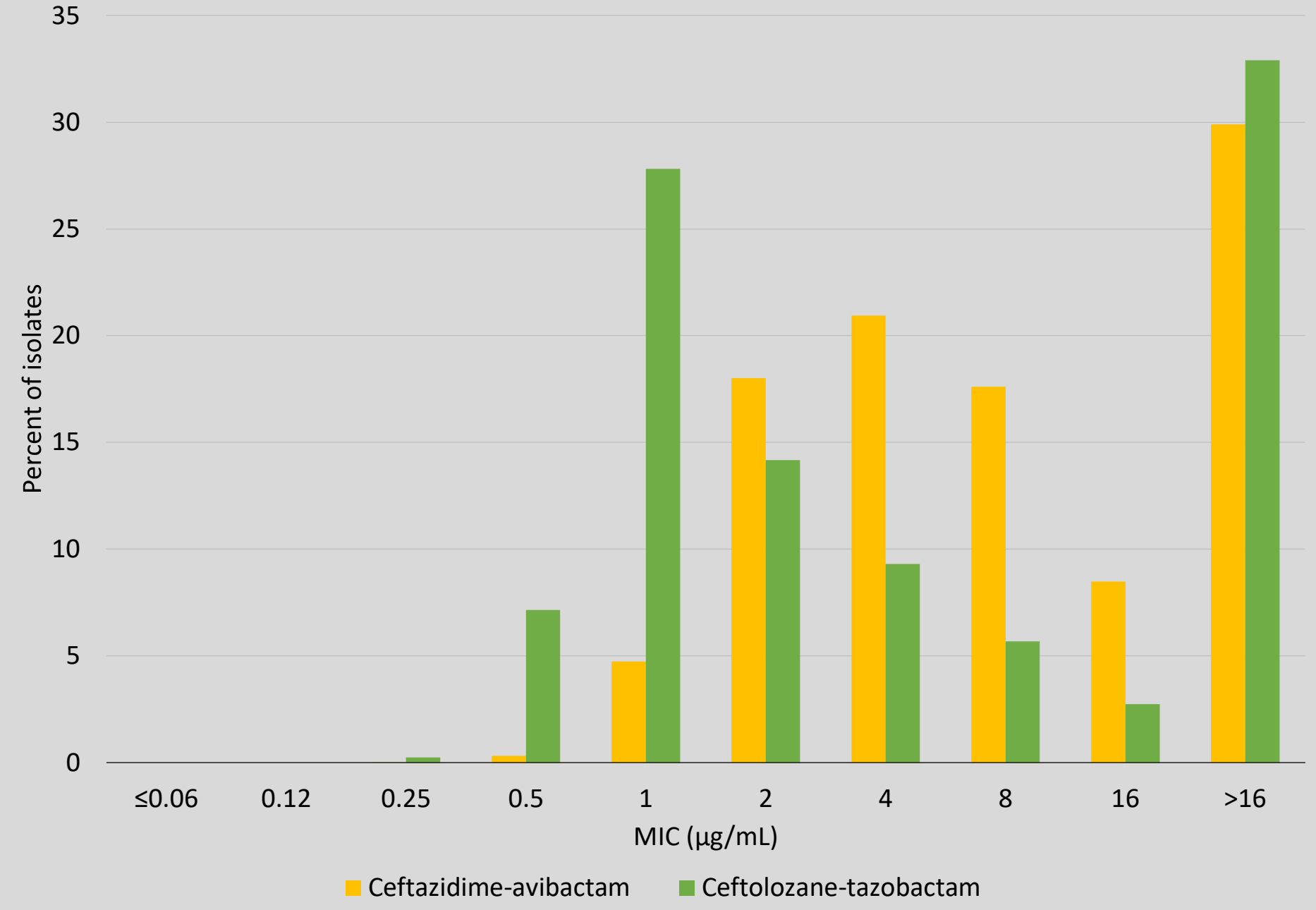


Figure 3. Distribution of ceftazidime-avibactam and ceftolozane-tazobactam MIC values against MBL-negative *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (n=1,473), 2020-2023

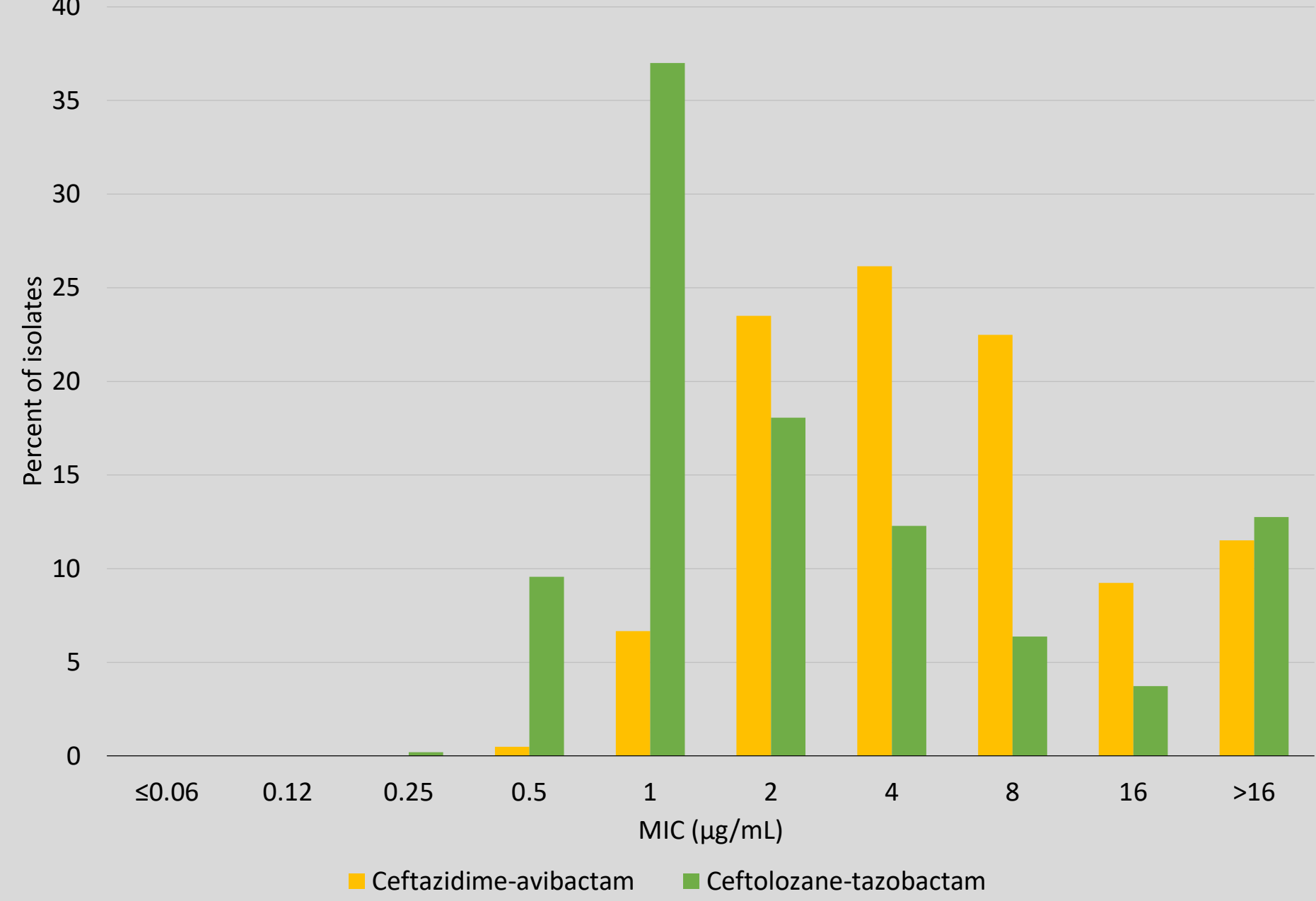
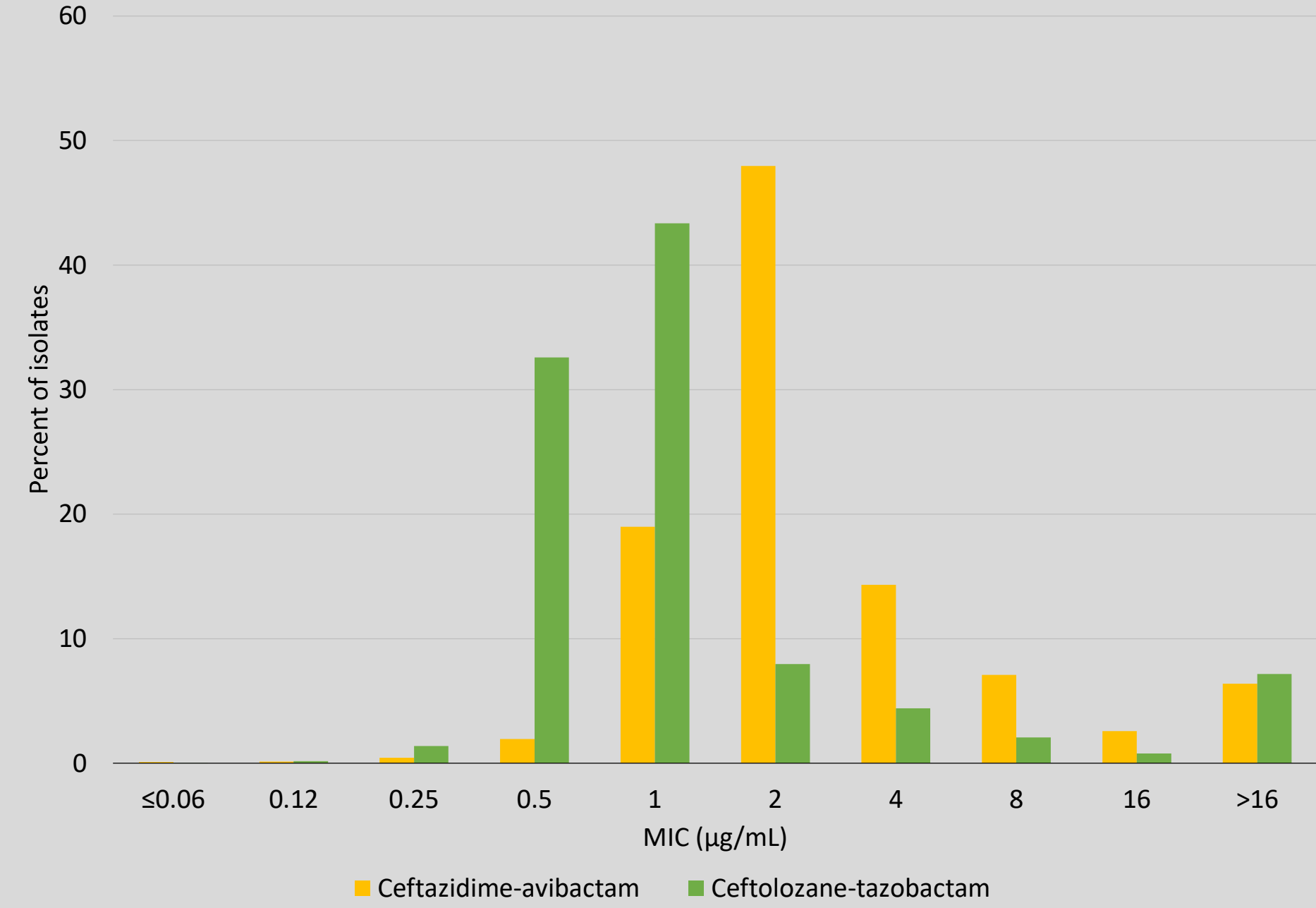


Figure 3. Distribution of ceftazidime-avibactam and ceftolozane-tazobactam MIC values against all *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* minus MBL-positive isolates (n=27,710), 2020-2023



Results Summary

- Among all *P. aeruginosa*, ceftazidime-avibactam showed good activity (89.7% susceptible, MIC₉₀=16 μ g/mL). Activity of ceftolozane-tazobactam was similar (88.6% susceptible, MIC₉₀=8 μ g/mL) (Table 1, Figure 1).
- Among all isolates, 24.5% were non-susceptible to meropenem, and of these, 61.6% were susceptible to ceftazidime-avibactam and 58.7% were susceptible to ceftolozane-tazobactam (Table 1, Figure 2).
- Of the 1,473 isolates that were molecularly screened (meropenem MIC >1 μ g/mL) and were negative for MBL-producing genes, 79.2% were susceptible to ceftazidime-avibactam and 77.1% were susceptible to ceftolozane-tazobactam (Table 1, Figure 3).
- When MBL-producers were removed from all isolates tested, the percentage susceptible to ceftazidime-avibactam increased to 91.0% and the MIC₉₀ decreased to 8 μ g/mL. Ceftolozane-tazobactam showed similar activity against these isolates (90.0% susceptible, MIC₉₀=8 μ g/mL) (Table 1, Figure 4).
- Among ceftolozane-tazobactam nonsusceptible isolates, 21.9% were susceptible to ceftazidime-avibactam, whereas among ceftazidime-avibactam resistant isolates, 13.8% were susceptible to ceftolozane-tazobactam (Table 1).

Conclusions

- Ceftazidime-avibactam demonstrated good *in vitro* activity against *P. aeruginosa* isolates.
- Ceftazidime-avibactam continues to be a useful therapeutic option for infections caused by *P. aeruginosa*, especially those not harboring MBLs.

References

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Disclosures

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