



IMI AMR Accelerator

Tackling antibiotic
resistance together

COMBINE WP5:
*Improving animal
models and preclinical-
to-clinical translation*

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Scientific Director, GSK

AMR Accelerator: Public-Private collaboration with the shared goal of progressing the development of new medicines to treat or prevent resistant bacterial infections (www.amr-accelerator.eu)

Who are we?



3 topics within the AMR Accelerator

TUBERCULOSIS & NTM



Accelerating scientific discoveries and advancing the R&D pipeline of new and innovative agents to treat TB and NTM lung disease.

GRAM-NEGATIVES



Advancing the R&D pipeline of new and innovative agents to address AMR in Gram-negative bacteria.

CAPABILITY BUILDING



Accelerating and validating scientific discoveries in AMR. Coordinating and supporting projects across the AMR Accelerator.



Collaboration for prevention and treatment of MDR bacterial infections (COMBINE)

➤ 6-year project from Nov 2019 – Nov 2025



Universities, research organisations, public bodies, non-profit groups:

- Uppsala University (UU) Sweden **Coordinator**
- Paul-Ehrlich-Institut (PEI) Germany
- Fraunhofer Gesellschaft (FRAUNHOFER) Germany
- Statens Serum Institut (SSI) Denmark
- BEAM Alliance (BA) France

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and mid-sized companies (<€500 m turnover):

- Asclepia (AC) Belgium
- GRIT42 (G42) Denmark
- BIOCOM (BC) Germany

EFPIA companies:

- GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) United Kingdom **Project Lead**
- Evotec (EVT) Germany
- Janssen (JNJ) Belgium

<https://amr-accelerator.eu/project/combine>

WP5: Animal Models & PK/PD

Improve understanding of animal infection model reproducibility and translation to clinical efficacy

Problem:

- Animal infection models are excellent tools, yet translational gaps remain
- Methods used for study conduct & analyses impact results
- Lack of standardization hinders interpretation & comparison

Our ambitious goals:

- Develop standardised animal infection model protocol
- Benchmark standard model using relevant control compounds
- Establish in vivo reference strain bank supported by data from the model
- Provide framework for PK/PD analysis & mathematical modelling
- Improve understanding of preclinical-to-clinical translation

Two main workstreams

Establish Reference Strain Bank

- Identify candidate strains that perform well in the standard model
- Evaluate performance of selected strains across labs and studies
- Provide benchmark data for the selected strain-antibiotic combinations
- Ensure reference strains and data are available to AMR community

Improve Preclinical-to-Clinical Translation

- Investigate how response in our standard model translates to the clinic
- Learn how to appropriately interpret the data from our standard model
- Explore variability in drug response across strains and between labs
- Demonstrate how to best use the data for PK/PD modeling
- Provide preclinical data for further translational analyses

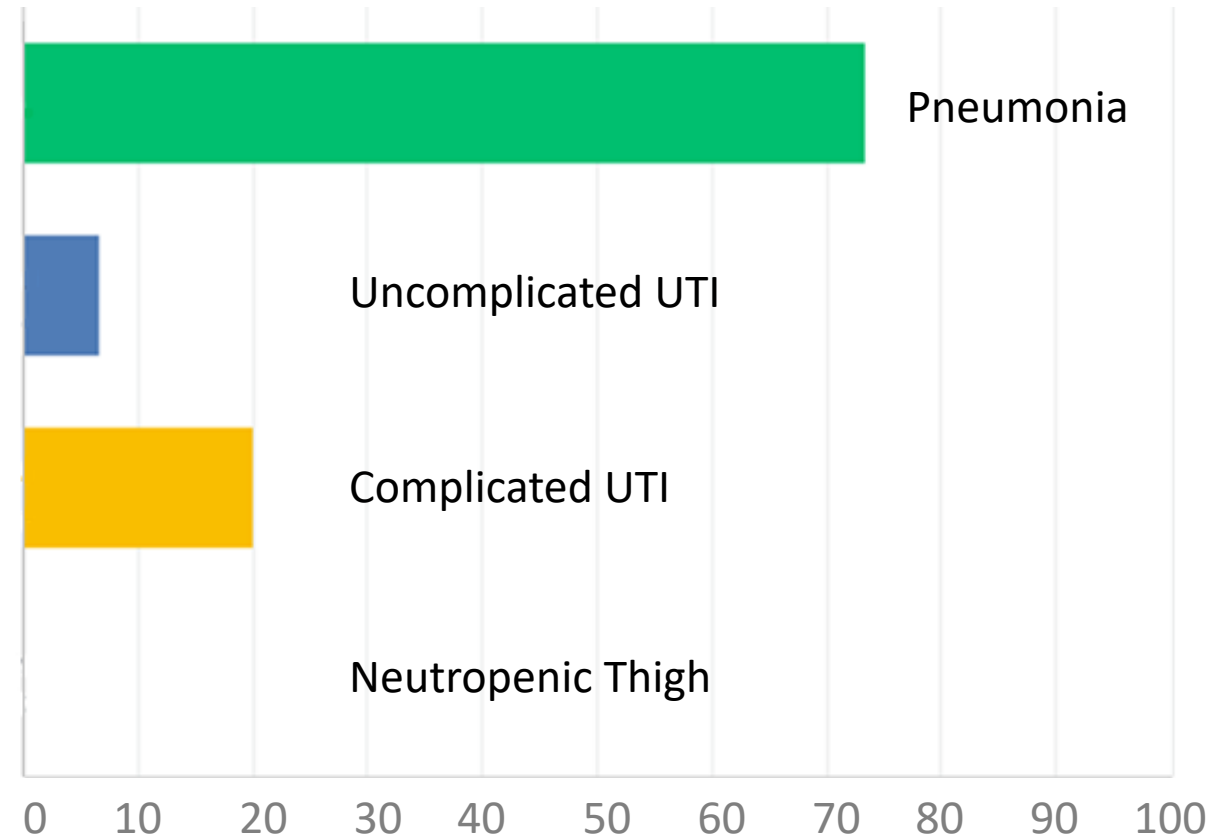
Selection of model and assessment of methods in literature

AMR Animal Models Webinar

- Presentations on models to study antibiotics vs. Gram-neg pathogens
- Survey of participants to identify greatest need for model improvement

Results of Literature Review

- Substantial differences in study methods
 - Mouse strain, sex, age, etc.
 - Bacterial strains/inoculum
 - Infection procedure
 - Treatment time, route, etc.
 - Study endpoints and timing



**Model with greatest translational gap
(% of survey participants)**

Identification of key variables and selection of standards

EXPERT WORKSHOP: Develop standardized murine model to evaluate treatments for AMR lung infections

**Day 1 (Tuesday, April 27th 2021):
15:00-19:00 CEST**

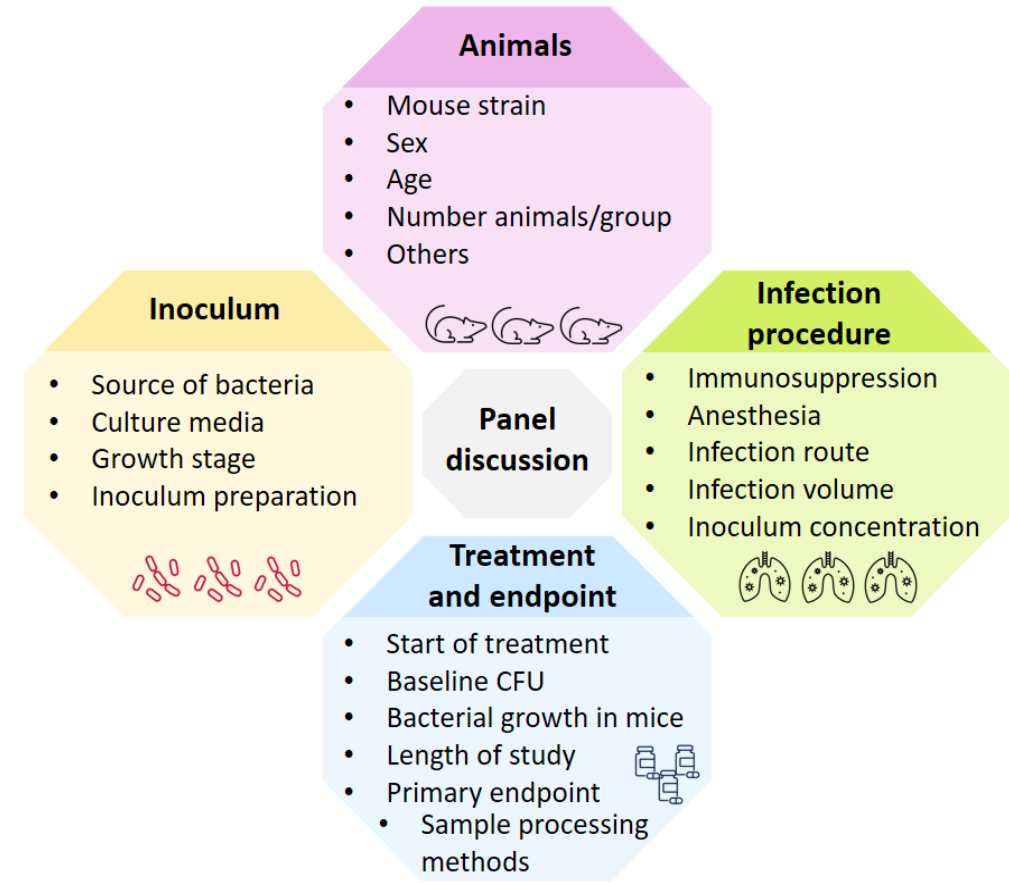
Developing a standardized murine pneumonia model to characterize PK/PD of antibiotics

**Day 2 (Wednesday, April 28th 2021):
15:00-19:00 CEST**

Standard protocols for murine pneumonia models - beyond PK/PD

**Expert Panel &
Participant Survey**

Variables discussed/standardized

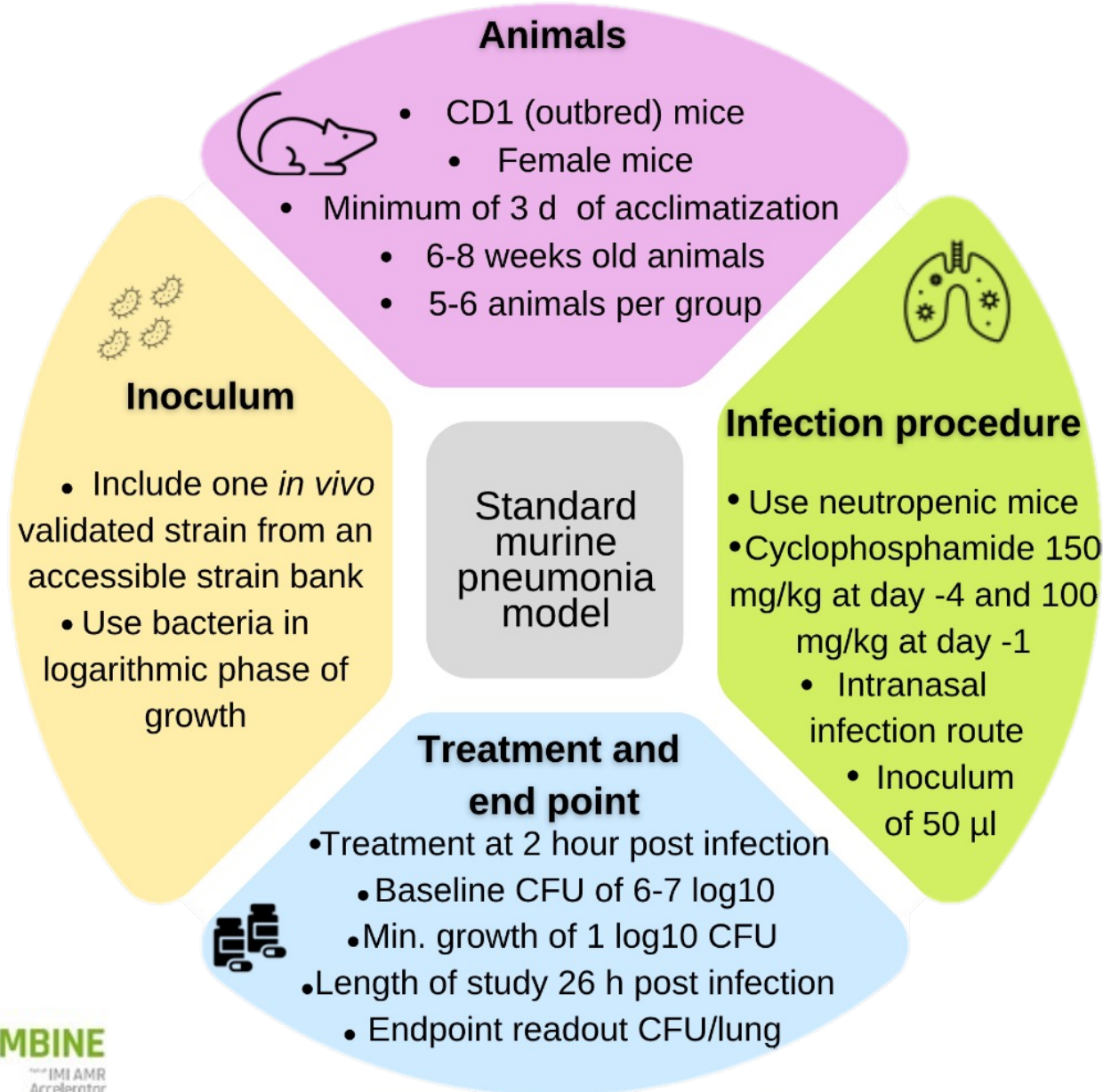


Watch for our upcoming publications!

Standard lung model established for PK/PD



What's next?



1. *Select bacterial strains*

- Characterized for resistance profile
- That are shareable via an accessible repository

2. *Validate strains in model*

- To ensure consistent growth

3. *Choose reference compounds*

- Examples of different classes
- Reasonable to work with *in vivo*
- Maximize collaborative efforts

4. *Generate in vivo data*

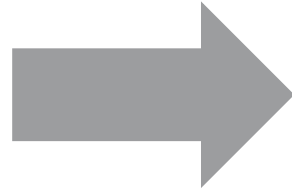
- PK from infected mice
- PD for ≥ 3 strains of *P. aeruginosa* and *K. pneumoniae*

5. *Analyses/reporting*

Our goal in WP5 is to move the AMR community

FROM:

1. Variability in animal models employed for pneumonia
2. Inconsistent strain use
3. Lack of consensus on interpretation
4. Varying application of mathematical modeling
5. Greater translational risk



TO:

1. Standardized & validated pneumonia model
2. Benchmarked in vivo reference strains
3. More informed interpretation
4. Clear PK/PD modeling framework
5. Greater confidence moving to clinic with new antibacterials

COMBINE aims to identify better ways to *translate preclinical know-how into clinical predictions*

Let's collaborate! Can you...



Share **expertise**
and strains

Contact us:
IMI-COMBINE@pei.de



Support our
data quest

*Share your preclinical and/or
clinical pneumonia data*



Combine effort
on common
interests

*Conduct validation
studies in your lab or CRO*

Acknowledgement

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