

[P-528R] Description of decreased Pseudomonas aeruginosa susceptibilities to fluoroquinolones associated with increased fluoroquinolone usage

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Antibiotic resistance is an increasing problem facing health care today. Recent literature has documented a change in the sensitivity of Pseudomonas aeruginosa to fluoroquinolones related to increased usage of these agents. The literature also suggests the development of cross resistance between quinolone agents. This presentation will describe the change in Pseudomonas aeruginosa susceptibilities in relation to the usage of fluoroquinolone agents over the past 2 years in a Veterans Affairs Medical Center. It will also describe the potential development of cross resistance between levofloxacin and ciprofloxacin noted after a formulary switch from ciprofloxacin to levofloxacin in early 1998. Susceptibility changes and drug utilization data for both inpatient and outpatient areas during 1998 and 1999 will be presented. Statistics will be performed to determine if a correlation exists between increased usage of fluoroquinolones and observed decreased sensitivities of Pseudomonas aeruginosa.