

1 ***In Vitro* efficacy comparison of linezolid, tedizolid, sutezolid and delpazolid**
2 **against rapid growing Mycobacteria isolated in Beijing, China**

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22 **Running title:** The efficacy of oxazolidinones against RGM

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24 **ABSTRACT**

25 The natural resistance of rapid growth Mycobacterium (RGM) against multiple
26 antibiotics renders the treatment of caused infections less successful and time
27 consuming. Therefore, new effective agents are urgently needed. The aim of this
28 study was to evaluate the *in vitro* susceptibility of 115 isolates, constituting different
29 RGM species, against four oxazolidinones i.e.delpazolid,sutezolid,tedizolid and
30 linezolid.Additionally,32 reference strains of different RGM species were also
31 tested.The four oxazolidinones exhibited potent *in vitro* activity against the recruited
32 RGM reference strains,24 out of 32 RGM species had MICs \leq 8 μ g/mL against all four
33 oxazolidinones whereas tedizolid and delpazolid generally presented lower MICs than
34 linezolid or sutezolid. Tedizolid showed the strongest activity against clinical isolates
35 of *M.abscessus* with MIC₅₀=1 μ g/mL and MIC₉₀=2 μ g/mL.MIC values for tedizolid
36 were usually 4- to 8-fold less than the MICs of linezolid for *M.abscessus* subsp.
37 *abscessus*.The MIC distributions of sutezolid and linezolid were similar, while
38 delpazolid showed 2-fold lower MIC as compared with linezolid.Linezolid was not
39 active against most of the tested *M.fortuitum* isolates, 22 out of the 25 *M.fortuitum*
40 were resistant against linezolid. However,delpazolid exhibited better antimicrobial
41 activity against these isolates with 4-fold lower MIC values,in contrast with
42 linezolid.In addition,the protein alignment of RplC and RplD and structure based
43 analysis showed that there may be no correlation between oxazolidinones resistance
44 and mutations *in rplC,rplD* and *23srRNA*genes in tested RGM.This study showed
45 tedizolid harbors the strongest inhibitory activity against *M.abscessus in vitro*,while
46 delpazolid presented the best activity against *M.fortuitum*,which provided important
47 insights on the potential clinical application of oxazolidinones to treat RGM
48 infections.

49 **KEYWORDS:** Rapidgrowing Mycobacteria, delpazolid, sutezolid, tedizolid,
50 linezolid, antimicrobial activity

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54 INTRODUCTION

55 Non-tuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) are recognized as important opportunistic
56 pathogens of humans that can cause pulmonary infection, lymphadenitis, skin
57 abscesses, disseminated infection and systematic infection. The prevalence of NTM
58 infections has increased globally and even surpassed tuberculosis (TB) in certain
59 countries (1-5). According to their speed of growth (i.e. appearance of visible colonies
60 within or after 7 day cultivation on solid medium), NTM can be categorized as rapid
61 growing Mycobacteria (RGM) or slow growing mycobacteria (SGM). Compared with
62 SGM, RGM are more resistant to conventional anti-TB agents and other general
63 antibiotics, therefore, increasing the chances of treatment failure(6). *M.abscessus* and
64 *M.fortuitum* are among the most frequently isolated and pathogenic RGMs(1-5).
65 *M.abscessus* often cause severe pulmonary infections with poor clinical outcomes and
66 have been frequently reported to cause soft tissue infections(7). *M.fortuitum* can cause
67 soft tissue infection during trauma and surgery, while lung disease caused by them is
68 rare(8). The limited efficacies and availability of only fewer choices of medications
69 highlight the requirement of identifying new and more potent antimicrobials against
70 RGMs.

71 Oxazolidinones have demonstrated promising efficacies against *M.tuberculosis*
72 (TB) *in vitro* and *in vivo*. Due to their distinct mechanism of action (binding to the
73 23S ribosome, thereby blocking microbial protein synthesis) without cross-resistance
74 to the existing TB drugs. Oxazolidinones are proposed to be used for the treatment of
75 multiple drug resistant TB. Linezolid (LZD), licensed in 2000, is an oxazolidinone
76 which exhibited excellent antibacterial activity against drug resistant tuberculosis
77 (DR-TB) and NTM infection(9-12). However, serious hematologic and neurologic
78 toxicities can be caused by LZD during long term therapy due to its inhibition of
79 mitochondrial protein synthesis which often requires dose reduction or
80 discontinuation(13). Thus, new oxazolidinones drugs with superior efficacy and
81 reduced toxicity are continuously sought.

82 Recently, three new next-generation oxazolidinones have been developed for
83 potential use against DR-TB. Tedizolid (TZD) phosphate is a novel, potent

84 oxazolidinone pro-drug that has been approved by the American FDA (2014) and the
85 European Medicine Agency (2015) for treatment of acute bacterial skin and soft tissue
86 infections(7). The pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamics properties of TZD allow it to
87 be administered orally once daily, facilitating its usage in prolonged treatment course.
88 Sutezolid (SZD) (PNU-100480) is a thiomorpholinyl analog of LZD with preliminary
89 evidence of superior efficacy against *M. tuberculosis*(14). SZD was found to be
90 generally safe, well tolerated in TB patients, and with readily detectable bactericidal
91 activity in sputum and blood. Delpazolid (LCB01-0371)(DZD) is a thiomorpholinyl
92 analog of LZD, which showed superior efficacy against *M.tuberculosis* in the
93 hollow-fiber, mouse model, and whole-blood model (2–4). DZD was well tolerated
94 and showed bacteriostatic and bactericidal activity comparable to LZD against *S.*
95 *aureus*, *E. faecalis* and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in a recently
96 completed phase I clinical trial(15).

97 To better understand the efficacies of these three new-generation oxazolidinones
98 against different RGM species, we detected the MICs of 32 RGM reference strains
99 and 115 RGM clinical isolates collected in Beijing, China. Furthermore, we
100 investigated the three reported LZD-resistance genes (including *rplC*, *rplD* and
101 *23srRNA*) from different RGM species to identify their potential relationships with
102 oxazolidinone resistance.

103 **RESULTS**

104 ***MICs of SZD,TZD,DZD and LZD against RGM reference strains***

105 The MICs of the 32 reference strains against SZD, TZD, DZD and LZD are
106 presented in Table 1. All four oxazolidinones exhibited antimicrobial activities *in vitro*
107 against the recruited RGM reference stains. Majority of the species had MICs equal to
108 or below 8 μ g/mL for all four drugs. Only *M.fortuitum* and *M.rhodesiae* had MICs
109 greater than 32 μ g/mL. Generally, a given isolate presented uniform tendency against
110 all four oxazolidinones, the MIC values were either high for or low for the four drugs.
111 For *M.abscessus*, the efficacy of TZD was stronger than LZD.

112 ***The MIC distributions of M.abscessus and M.massiliense against LZD,TZD,SZD and*** 113 ***DZD***

114 The MIC distributions of *M.abscessus* and *M.massiliense* against LZD, TZD,

115 SZD and DZD are shown in Figure 1. MICs for TZD were generally 4- to 8-fold less
116 than the MICs of LZD for the two species. The MIC distribution of SZD was similar
117 to LZD, while DZD values were generally half of LZD. Notably, TZD showed
118 strongest activity against *M.abscessus* with MIC₅₀=1µg/mL and MIC₉₀=2µg/mL.
119 According to the CLSI resistance criteria for LZD(16), the susceptibility rate of
120 *M.abscessus* against LZD, TZD, SZD and DZD was 73.5%(36/49), 100%(49/49),
121 71.4%(35/49), 87.8%(43/49), respectively. The susceptibility rate of *M.massiliense*
122 against LZD, TZD, SZD and DZD was 65.8%(23/35), 82.9%(29/35), 68.6%(24/35)
123 and 74.3%(26/35), respectively. In general, the MIC distributions of *M.massiliense*
124 had uniform tendency than *M.abscessus*, but with an exception for TZD. The MICs of
125 *M.massiliense* isolates were higher than *M.abscessus*. 6 out of 35 isolates of
126 *M.massiliense* had MICs $\geq 16\mu\text{g/mL}$ against TZD, the MICs of all the tested
127 *M.abscessus* were $\leq 4\mu\text{g/mL}$. In addition, the MIC outcomes for species with less
128 than five isolates are presented in Table 2.

129 **The MIC distributions of *M.fortuitum* against LZD, TZD, SZD and DZD**

130 The MIC distributions of *M.fortuitum* against LZD, TZD, SZD and DZD are
131 shown in Figure 2. In contrast to *M.abscessus* and *M.massiliense*, *M.fortuitum*
132 presented higher percentage of resistance against the four oxazolidinones. The
133 susceptibility profiles of the clinical isolates exhibited much lower MICs than
134 *M.fortuitum* ATCC6481 reference strain. In Total, 88%(22/25) of the clinical isolates
135 were resistant to LZD, including *M.fortuitum* reference strain. The *in vitro* activity of
136 DZD was relatively better than LZD as indicated by its 2- to 4-fold lower MIC. The
137 MIC distributions of TZD was similar to LZD as only 5 out of 25 isolates indicated
138 MIC $\leq 8\mu\text{g/mL}$. According to the cutoff value of LZD, the susceptibility rates of
139 *M.fortuitum* against TZD, SZD and DZD were 20%(5/25), 12%(3/25), 76%(19/25),
140 respectively.

141 **Alternations in the Oxazolidinones target sites**

142 The entire *23SrRNA*, *rplC*, and *rplD* genes were sequenced to identify the
143 potential mutations associated with oxazolidinones resistance. The sequences of the
144 tested clinical isolates of *M.abscessus*, *M.massiliense* and *M.fortuitum* were compared

145 with their corresponding reference strains. For *M.massiliense* isolates, Ala177Proin
146 *rplD* was detected in 12 isolates with MIC of LZD $\geq 2 \mu\text{g/mL}$. In addition, two types
147 of synonymous SNPs within the coding region of *rplC* were also observed both in
148 LZD resistant and susceptible isolates, including Leu86Leu(CTG \rightarrow CTT) and
149 Ala92Ala(GCG \rightarrow GCT). A2271G in 23SrRNA was found in one isolate with MIC of
150 LZD=8 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. For *M.abscessus* isolates, no non-synonymous mutation in the coding
151 gene of *rplC* and *rplD* was observed, while most frequently observed mutation i.e.
152 T2650C(n=2) was found in 23SrRNA with MIC of LZD $\geq 2 \mu\text{g/mL}$ (Table 3).

153 Among the tested *M.fortuitum* isolates, all MICs for LZD were above 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$.
154 No non-synonymous mutation was detected in the *rplC* gene. Among 25 tested
155 *M.fortuitum* isolates, A2090T and C1944T in 23SrRNA were detected in two isolates
156 with MIC=32 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ and 8 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ for LZD, respectively. In addition, 21 out of 25
157 clinical *M.fortuitum* isolates simultaneously showed following nine non-synonymous
158 mutations in the coding protein of *rplD* for the both LZD susceptible and resistant
159 isolates: Ala146Gly(GCG \rightarrow GGC), Thr147Ser(ACC \rightarrow AGC), Val156Ile(GTG \rightarrow ATC),
160 Ala161Thr(GCG \rightarrow ACC), Lys167Arg(AAG \rightarrow CGC), Ser207Ala(TCC \rightarrow GCG),
161 Glu212Gly(GAG \rightarrow GGA), Val213Ala(GTG \rightarrow GCG), Ala215Val(GCC \rightarrow GTC) (Table
162 4).

163 ***Structural mapping of clinical mutants***

164 For *M.massiliense* isolates, Ala177Pro in RplD was detected in 12 isolates, both
165 in LZD susceptible and resistant isolates with MIC $\geq 2 \mu\text{g/mL}$. To gain an insight
166 into the functional relevance of RplC and RplD mutation, multiple sequences
167 alignment of RplC and RplD homologues from different mycobacterial species were
168 performed (Figure S1 and S2). The protein sequence of RplC and RplD in different
169 mycobacterial species are highly conserved. In addition, we used *M. tuberculosis*
170 RplD structure as a model to map *M.massiliense* RplD mutation(PDB ID:5V7Q)
171 (Figure 5B). The structure shows that Ala177 is located in a high variable region
172 between $\beta 3$ and $\eta 2$ and is far from the LZD binding site which indicates that this
173 mutation may not be related to LZD resistance(Figure 3B). Next, we mapped the
174 23SrRNA functional mutations of *M.abscessus*, *M.massiliense* and *M.fortuitum*. The

175 results showed that except A2271 in *M.massiliense*, the other mutations including
176 G2582, A2625 and T2650 were far from the catalytic center (Figure 3C).

177 DISCUSSION

178 The treatment of RGM infection is often very difficult because of their higher
179 drug resistance rate than SGM and unavailability of highly potent drugs against them
180 *in vitro*. *M.abscessus* complex and *M.fortuitum* are two most prevalent RGM species
181 around the world. Infections due to *M.abscessus* carry a poor prognosis since this
182 RGM is, for all the correct reasons, considered an “antibiotic nightmare”(17). Thus,
183 identifying drugs that could work potently against *M.abscessus* is a priority.
184 *M.massiliense* is a species that originally split from *M.abscessus* but they are located
185 closely in the phylogenetic tree(18). The treatment response rates to
186 clarithromycin-based antibiotic therapy are much higher in patients with
187 *M.massiliense* than patients with *M.abscessus* lung disease(19). *M.fortuitum* is the
188 main RGM responsible for extra-pulmonary disease, especially in cutaneous and
189 plastic surgery-related infections(20). In contrast to *M.abscessus*, *M.fortuitum*
190 infection has better prognosis due to some available effective drugs(21). However, its
191 emerging drug resistance highlights the need for new and effective drugs(21-23).
192 Several studies have verified the efficacy of LZD in MDR-TB or even in XDR-TB
193 treatment (9, 13, 24). A few studies also proved its antibacterial activity against NTM
194 species either *in vitro* or *in vivo*(25, 26). As a novel oxazolidinone prodrug, TZD
195 exhibited greater potency than LZD against *M. tuberculosis*(6, 27) as well as against
196 NTM(28, 29). Limited studies or no study has been performed to evaluate the efficacy
197 of SZD and DZD against NTM species(28), whereas only a few studies provided
198 preliminary assessment of their potential usage in TB(14, 30, 31). In this study, we
199 evaluated the efficacies of four oxazolidinones against the reference and clinical
200 isolates of RGM to gain insights on their potential use for specific RGM species.

201 As new drugs, well recognized susceptibility testing methods for TZD, SZD and
202 DTD have not been developed and the breakpoints to define drug resistance for them
203 have never been discussed yet. Therefore, the MIC data of different RGM species
204 against oxazolidinones still remain scarce. In this study, the four oxazolidinones

205 exhibited promising activities *in vitro* against the recruited RGM reference stains. The
206 absolute majority of species had MICs below 8µg/mL against the four drugs. However,
207 different species presented non-uniform susceptibility patterns. The MIC distributions
208 of *M.massiliense* had similar tendency to the *M.abscessus*, but the MICs of TZD were
209 obviously higher than *M.abscessus*. In comparison with other oxazolidinones, the
210 MIC values for TZD were the lowest for both *M.abscessus* and *M.massiliense*.
211 Previous studies, including 170 isolates of RGM, showed equivalent or lower (1 to 8
212 fold) MIC₅₀ and MIC₉₀ values for TZD in contrast with LZD(29). Furthermore, TZD
213 harbors several advantages over LZD in terms of tolerability, safety, dosing frequency,
214 and treatment duration(32). Only a few studies have reported the clinical use of TZD
215 for the treatment of NTM infections. Our results indicated that its usage seems
216 reasonable for the treatment of infection caused by *M.abscessus* and *M.massiliense*.
217 Among the 25 tested *M.fortuitum* isolates in our study, 22(22/25) strains had MICs of
218 LZD at ≥ 16 mg/L. Based on the CLSI criteria, these strains could be categorized as
219 intermediate resistant or resistant strains, 52% (13/25) of them belong to resistant
220 strains. Using the cutoff value of LZD as the tentative breakpoints, the susceptibility
221 rate of *M.fortuitum* against TZD, SZD and DZD were 20%(5/25), 12%(3/25),
222 76%(19/25), respectively. DZD exhibited the best antimicrobial activity against the
223 *M.fortuitum*. However, whether this *in vitro* outcome reflects the *in vivo* efficacy or
224 not, requires further investigation.

225 A major limitation of this study was that no recommended breakpoint of different
226 NTM species against TZD, SZD or DZD had been proposed previously. Beside *in*
227 *vitro* MIC distributions, the breakpoint determination also correlates with clinical
228 treatment response and pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamics (PK/PD) data including
229 drug dose. The clinical trial on these new oxazolidinones are either unavailable or
230 very limited. A few studies have been performed on the pharmacokinetic analysis of
231 these drugs. Generally, all the drugs were well-tolerated, and the C_{max} were highly
232 dose-dependent. Recently, Choi et al demonstrated that, after multiple doses of TZD
233 up to 1200mg twice daily for 21days,the peak serum concentration was 16.3µg/mL,
234 which is comparable with peak serum concentrations of LZD=12.5µg/mL at the

235 dosage of 300mg twice daily(15, 33). In another study, a single 800mg dose of DZD
236 under fasting condition acquired C_{max} at 11.74 μ g/mL(34). STD presented superior
237 efficacy than LZD against experimental murine model of tuberculosis. The C_{max} of its
238 major metabolite PNU-101603, which contributes to its activity, was 6.46 μ g/mL at
239 given dose of 1200mg QD (40). However, since the optimal dosage of these
240 next-generation oxazolidinones is still under investigation, the appropriate
241 breakpoints for the susceptibility definition of these drugs remain beyond known.

242 LZD works by binding to the peptidyl transferase center of the 50S ribosomal
243 subunit, which is composed of 5S and 23S rRNAs and 36 riboproteins (L1 through
244 L36)(35). Recently, the Cryo-EM structure of the large ribosomal subunit from
245 *M.tuberculosis* bound with a potent LZD analog (LZD-114) was determined(36).
246 LZD-114 is similar with LZD in C ring but different in A and B ring that lacks a
247 fluorine group in the B-ring while the original morpholine ring is replaced by a
248 thiazole ring in the A-ring(Figure 3A). The LZD-114 also was bound in the same
249 pocket and in a similar orientation to LZD in other species(37, 38). The structure
250 showed that *rplC* encoded ribosomal protein L3 and *rplD* encoded ribosomal protein
251 L4 bind directly to 23S ribosomal RNA and was placed relatively close to the LZD
252 binding site on the ribosomes, suggesting that the mechanism for reduced
253 susceptibility may include structural perturbation of the LZD binding site
254 (PDB:5V7Q). Furthermore, previous studies demonstrated that mutations in *rplC* and
255 *rplD* could lead to LZD resistance in *M.tuberculosis*(12, 39). However, there is no
256 non-synonymous mutation in *rplC* against the tested RGM. Ala77Pro mutation was
257 detected in *rplD* which is located in variable site and is far away from LZD-binding
258 site, as shown by the sequence alignment. Except A2271G mutation in 23SrRNA in
259 *M.massiliense* that was closer to binding site of LZD, other mutations are far from the
260 LZD-binding site. Our results combining MIC test, gene mutation and structure based
261 analysis showed there is no obvious correlation between riboproteins mutations (*rplC*
262 and *rplD*) and LZD resistance identified in this study in the RGM species. Mutations
263 located in the LZD binding site may cause LZD resistant. Hence, *rplC*, *rplD* and
264 *23srRNA* homologues might not be the only target for LZD to explore its

265 bacteriostatic activity.

266 In conclusion, this study demonstrated that oxazolidinones have good *in vitro*
267 activities against the overwhelming majority of RGM species. The efficacies of the
268 four oxazolidinones were variable against different species. TZD showed strongest
269 antimicrobial activity against *M.abscessus* and *M.massiliense*, while DZD owned the
270 strongest activity against *M.fortuitum*. The data provided important insights on the
271 possible clinical applications of oxazolidinones to treat RGM infections.

272 MATERIAL AND METHODS

273 *Ethics statement*

274 As the study only concerned laboratory testing of mycobacteria without the
275 direct involvement of human subjects, ethics approval was not sought.

276 *Reference strains and clinical isolates*

277 The mycobacterial reference strains stored in the Bio-bank in Beijing Chest
278 Hospital (Beijing, China) were tested against LZD, TZD, SZD and DZD *in vitro*,
279 including 32 RGM species. These reference strains were obtained either from the
280 American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) or from the German Collection of
281 Microorganisms (DSM). The species constitution of these reference strains are listed
282 in Table 1. *M.massiliense* reference strain was not included due to its absence in our
283 stock. One-hundred fifteen isolates of RGM were recruited in Beijing chest hospital
284 from 2016 to 2018 that included 49 *M.abscessus*, 35 *M.massiliense*, 25 *M.fortuitum*.
285 The species constitution of the remaining 6 isolates is presented in Table 2.

286 All of the 115 RGM clinical strains were isolated from tuberculosis suspected
287 patients. The strains were classified as RGM preliminarily with p-nitrobenzoic acid
288 containing medium, and then were identified by gene sequencing as indicated for each
289 species by *16S rRNA*, *hsp65*, *rpoB*, *16-23S rRNA* internal transcribed spacer
290 sequencing (40). All the isolates were stored at -80°C and sub-cultured on LJ medium
291 before performing drug susceptibility test.

292 *Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC) testing*

293 TZD phosphate and LZD were purchased from Toronto Research Chemicals and
294 Sigma-aldrich, respectively. SZD and DZD were purchased from Shanghai
295 Biochempartner Co., Ltd (Shanghai, China) and JHK BioPharma, respectively.
296 Oxazolidinones were dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). Stock solutions were
297 aseptically prepared at concentrations of 2.56 mg/mL. Broth microdilution method
298 was performed according to the guidelines of Clinical and Laboratory Standards
299 Institute (CLSI)(41). Cation-adjusted Mueller-Hinton broth (CAMHB) was used for
300 MIC test. The inoculum was prepared with fresh culture grown on Lowenstein-Jensen
301 medium. The broth microdilution format was set up as 2-fold dilution, the
302 concentrations of all the tested drugs ranged from 0.063 μ g/mL to 32 μ g/mL. Briefly, a
303 bacterial suspension of 0.5 McFarland standard was prepared, and then diluted and
304 inoculated into 96-well microtiter plate to achieve final bacterial load at 10⁵ colony
305 forming unit (CFU) per well. Plates were then incubated at 37°C for 3 days for RGM.
306 70 μ L solution containing 20 μ L AlamarBlue (Bio-rad) and 50 μ L Tween80 (5%) was
307 added to each well and incubated for 24 h at 37 °C before assessing color
308 development. A change from blue to pink or purple indicated bacterial growth (42).
309 The MIC was defined as the lowest concentration of antibiotic that prevented a color
310 change from blue to pink.

311 The breakpoint of LZD was adopted from the CLSI document M24-A2
312 (susceptible: \leq 8 mg/L; intermediate resistant: 16 mg/L; resistant: \geq 32 mg/L) (16).
313 Since no well-recognized breakpoint has been proposed for TZD, SZD or DZD, a
314 preliminary data analysis was performed for them referring the breakpoint of LZD.

315 ***Mutations conferring oxazolidinones resistance and protein Alignment***

316 Sequencing of PCR products was performed using the Sanger method with
317 primers designed to be specific for *rplC*, *rplD* and *23S rRNA*. We used previously
318 described primers for *23S rRNA*(43), and design new primers for *rplC*, *rplD*
319 sequencing. The primers used in this study are listed in Table S1 in the supplemental
320 material and were synthesized by Tsingke Biotech Co. (Beijing, China). The *rplC* and
321 *rplD* gene of the reference strains of three RGM species plus *M.tuberculosis* were also
322 sequenced, mutation was defined in contrast with the sequences of the reference

323 strains. The sequences of *M.massiliense* were adopted from website for alignment.
324 The amplification products were sequenced by Tsingke Company (Beijing, China).
325 Multiple sequence alignment of the homologous proteins was performed using the
326 Clustal Omega software. Structure-based multiple sequence alignment was performed
327 with ESPript 3 based on the crystal structure of RplC and RplD protein of
328 *M.tuberculosis* from the following URL:<http://espript.ibcp.fr/ESPript/ESPript/>.
329 **Quality control.** The MIC for quality control strains was determined using each lot of
330 the prepared microtiter plates, and the results for LZD were within the expected
331 range.

332

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340

341 TRANSPARENCY DECLARATIONS

342 None to declare.

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470 **Table 1.MICs of LZD,TZD,SZD and DZD against the reference strains of 32 RGM species**

471 **Table 2. The MICs of LZD,TZD,SZD and DZD against clinically isolated species with less**
472 **than 5 isolates**

473 **Table 3.The MICs of LZD and rplC, rplD and 23srRNA mutations against *M. abscessus* and**
474 ***M. massiliense* isolates**

475 **Table 4.The MICs of LZD and rplC, rplD and 23srRNA mutations against *M. fortuitum***
476 **isolates**

477 **Figure 1. The MIC distributions of *M. abscessus* and *M. massiliense* against LZD,TZD, SZD**
478 **and DZD.**

479 **Figure 2.The MIC distributions of *M. fortuitum* against LZD,TZD, SZD and DZD.**

480 **Figure 3.The structure of the ribosomal 23SrRNA and rplD.**(A)The structure of LZD and its
481 analog LZD-114. (B)The structure of rplD and Ala177Pro mutations detected in *M.massiliense*
482 isolated highlighted in red.(C) The structure of ribosomal 23SrRNA and mutations detected in
483 tested RGM clinical isolates were highlighted in red.

484 **Table S1. Primer sets used for target genes in this study**

485 **FigureS1. Sequence alignment *rplC* homologue proteins.** Alignment of the amino acid
486 sequences of *M. tuberculosis*, *M.abscessus*,*M.massiliense*,*M.chelonae*, *M. fortuitum* and
487 *M.smegmatis*. The topology of the *rplC* encoded protein of *M. tuberculosis* is shown at
488 the top.Red boxes with white letters indicate a single, fully conserved residue. Blue frames
489 indicate highly conserved residues. β -Strands are rendered as arrows.

490 **FigureS2. Sequence alignment *rplD* homologue proteins.** Alignment of the amino acid
491 sequences of *M. tuberculosis*, *M.abscessus*,*M. massiliense*,*M.chelonae*, *M. fortuitum* and
492 *M.smegmatis*. The topology of the *rplD* encoded protein of *M. tuberculosis* is shown at
493 the top.Red boxes with white letters indicate a single, fully conserved residue. Blue frames
494 indicate highly conserved residues. β -Strands are rendered as arrows.

Table 1. MICs of LZD,TZD,SZD and DZD against reference strains of 32 RGM species

Strain by type	Mycobacterium species (strain)	MIC($\mu\text{g/ml}$)			
		LZD	TZD	SZD	DZD
RGM species					
ATCC 19977	<i>Mycobacterium abscessus</i>	16	4	8	8
ATCC 27406	<i>Mycobacterium agri</i>	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.5
ATCC 27280	<i>Mycobacterium aichiense</i>	0.5	0.5	2	1
ATCC 23366	<i>Mycobacterium aurum</i>	0.25	0.125	0.25	0.125
ATCC 33464	<i>Mycobacterium austroafricanum</i>	0.25	0.25	2	0.5
ATCC 14472	<i>Mycobacterium chelonae</i>	8	8	4	8
ATCC 19627	<i>Mycobacterium chitae</i>	1	1	2	1
ATCC 27278	<i>Mycobacterium chubuense</i>	32	2	2	2
DSM 44829	<i>Mycobacterium cosmeticum</i>	4	2	16	1
ATCC 19340	<i>Mycobacterium diernhoferi</i>	1	0.5	2	1
ATCC 43910	<i>Mycobacterium duvalii</i>	1	0.25	0.5	0.5
ATCC 35219	<i>Mycobacterium fallax</i>	4	2	8	1
ATCC 14474	<i>Mycobacterium flavescens</i>	16	2	2	8
ATCC 6841	<i>Mycobacterium fortuitum</i>	32	>32	>32	>32
ATCC 27726	<i>Mycobacterium gadium</i>	0.5	0.125	0.25	0.125
ATCC 43909	<i>Mycobacterium gilvum</i>	0.5	0.25	0.5	0.5
ATCC BAA-955	<i>Mycobacterium goodii</i>	16	4	32	2
DSM 44124	<i>Mycobacterium mucogenicum</i>	1	1	1	1
ATCC 25795	<i>Mycobacterium neoaurum</i>	1	0.5	2	1
ATCC 27023	<i>Mycobacterium obuense</i>	0.5	0.25	0.5	0.5
ATCC 19686	<i>Mycobacterium parafortuitum</i>	1	0.5	2	1
DSM 43271	<i>Mycobacterium peregrinum</i>	2	4	4	1
ATCC 11758	<i>Mycobacterium phlei</i>	2	4	8	16
ATCC 33776	<i>Mycobacterium porcinum</i>	16	8	32	4
ATCC 35154	<i>Mycobacterium pulveris</i>	1	1	1	2
ATCC 27024	<i>Mycobacterium rhodesiae</i>	>32	>32	>32	16
ATCC 700731	<i>Mycobacterium septicum</i>	16	8	8	8
ATCC 19420	<i>Mycobacterium smegmatis</i>	2	2	4	4
ATCC 19527	<i>Mycobacterium thermoresistibile</i>	4	2	2	4
ATCC 27282	<i>Mycobacterium tokaiense</i>	1	2	2	1
ATCC 23292	<i>Mycobacterium triviale</i>	2	2	2	2
ATCC 15483	<i>Mycobacterium vaccae</i>	2	0.5	1	1

Table 2. MICs of LZD,TZD,SZD and DZD against reference strains of 6 RGM species

Mycobacterium species (strain)	Clinical isolates number	MIC(μ g/ml)			
		LZD	TZD	SZD	DZD
RGM species					
Mycobacterium chelonae	585	32	8	16	8
Mycobacterium chelonae	752	>32	16	8	16
Mycobacterium chelonae	1354	4	1	2	1
Mycobacterium chelonae	1392	4	1	2	1
Mycobacterium chelonae	1593	4	0.5	2	0.5
Mycobacterium porcinum	29891	4	2	4	1

Table 3. The MICs of LZD and *rplC*, *rplD* and *23srRNA* mutations against *M. abscessus* and *M. massiliense* isolates

MIC of LZD ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Species (NO.)	RplC	RplD	23SrRNA
0.25	<i>M. abscessus</i> (0)	—	—	—
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (1)	Leu86Leu(1)	Gly75Gly(1)	WT
1	<i>M. abscessus</i> (1)	WT	WT	WT
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (0)	—	—	—
2	<i>M. abscessus</i> (4)	WT	WT	G1914A (1) T2650C(1)
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (4)	Leu86Leu(2)	Gly75Gly(2) Ala177Pro(2) Val192Val(2)	WT
4	<i>M. abscessus</i> (14)	WT	Phe23Phe(2)	T2650C(1)
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (8)	Leu86Leu(5)	Gly75Gly(5) Ala177Pro (3) Val192Val(3)	G2582C(1) -2625AC(1)
8	<i>M. abscessus</i> (17)	WT	Phe23Phe(3) Gly111Gly(1)	WT
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (10)	Leu86Leu(4) Ala92Ala(2)	Ile29Ile(1) Gly75Gly(3) Ala177Pro (4) Val192Val(6)	A2271G(1)
16	<i>M. abscessus</i> (13)	WT	Phe23Phe(3)	WT
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (5)	Leu86Leu(2)	Gly75Gly(2) Ala177Pro (3) Val192Val(3)	WT
>16	<i>M. abscessus</i> (0)	—	—	—
	<i>M. massiliense</i> (7)	Leu86Leu(1) Ala92Ala(6)	Gly75Gly(1) Val192Val(5)	WT

Table 4. The MICs of LZD and *rplC*, *rplD* and *23srRNA* mutations against *M. fortuitum* isolates

MIC of LZD ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)	Species (NO.)	RplC	RplD	23SrRNA
4	1	-	Ala146Gly+ Thr147Ser + Val156Ile+ Ala161Thr+ Lys167Arg+ Ser207Ala+ Glu212Gly+ Val213Ala+ Ala215Val (1)	
8	2		Ala146Gly+ Thr147Ser + Val156Ile+ Ala161Thr+ Lys167Arg+ Ser207Ala+ Glu212Gly+ Val213Ala+ Ala215Val (1)	
			WT	C1944T(1)
16	9		Ala146Gly+ Thr147Ser + Val156Ile+ Ala161Thr+ Lys167Arg+ Ser207Ala+ Glu212Gly+ Val213Ala+ Ala215Val (8)	
32	7		Ala161Thr+ Lys167Arg+ Ser207Ala+ Glu212Gly+ Val213Ala+ Ala215Val(1)	A2090T(1)
			Ala146Gly+ Thr147Ser + Val156Ile+ Ala161Thr+ Lys167Arg+ Ser207Ala+ Glu212Gly+ Val213Ala+ Ala215Val (5)	
>32	6		Ala146Gly+ Thr147Ser + Val156Ile+ Ala161Thr+ Lys167Arg+ Ser207Ala+ Glu212Gly+ Val213Ala+ Ala215Val (6)	

Figure 1

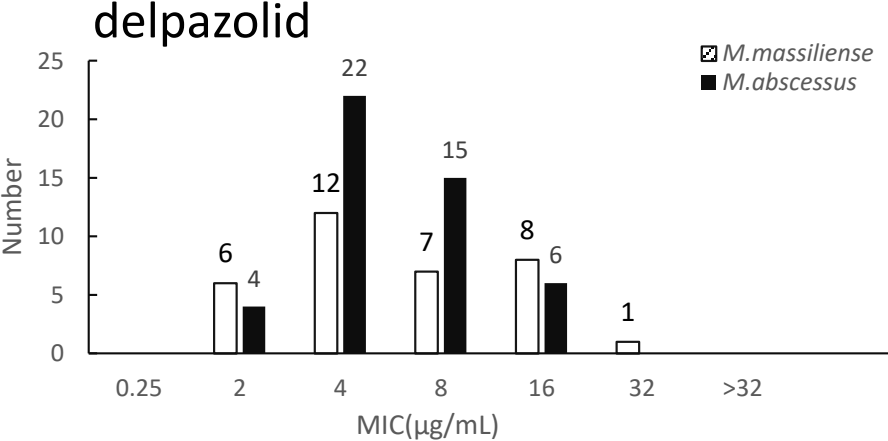
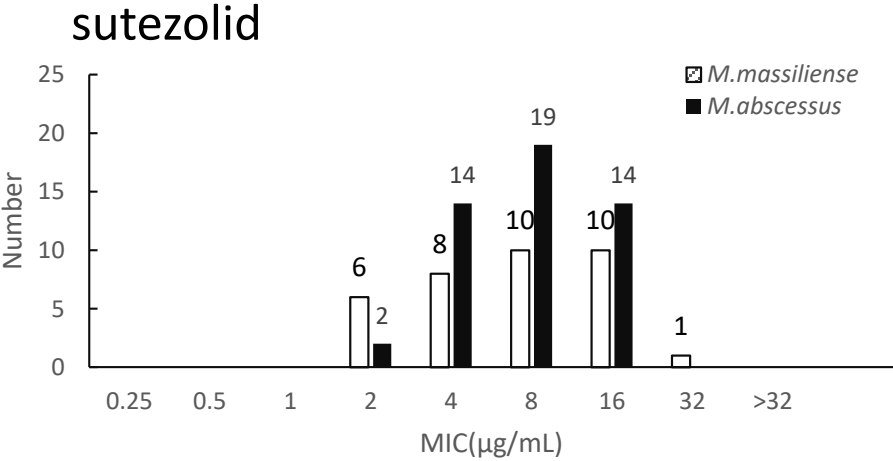
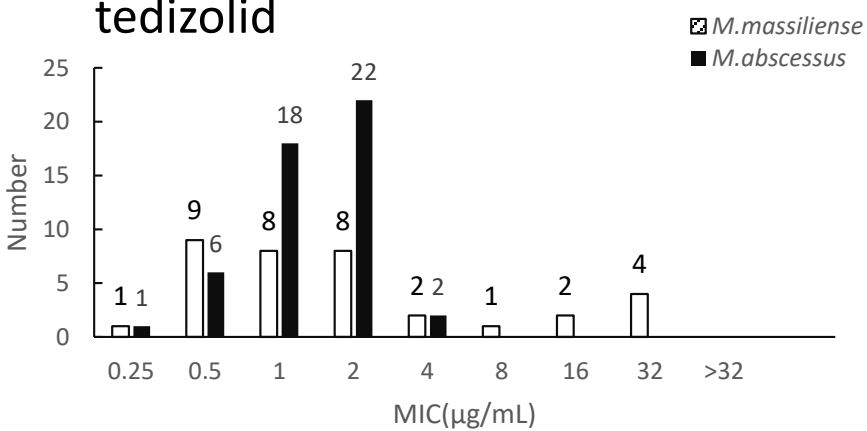
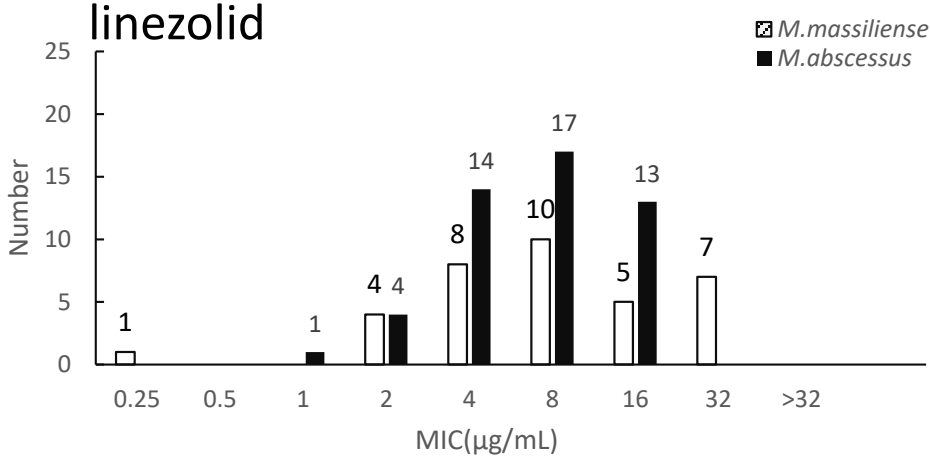


Figure 2

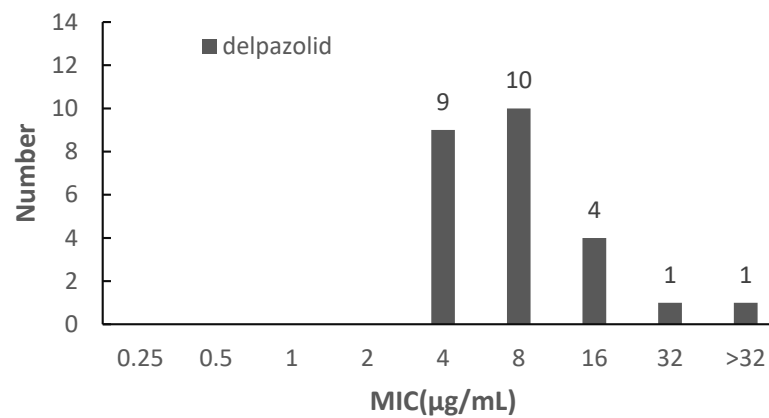
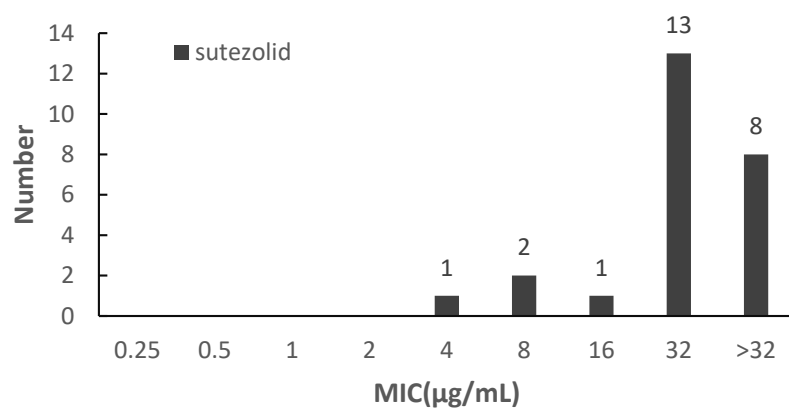
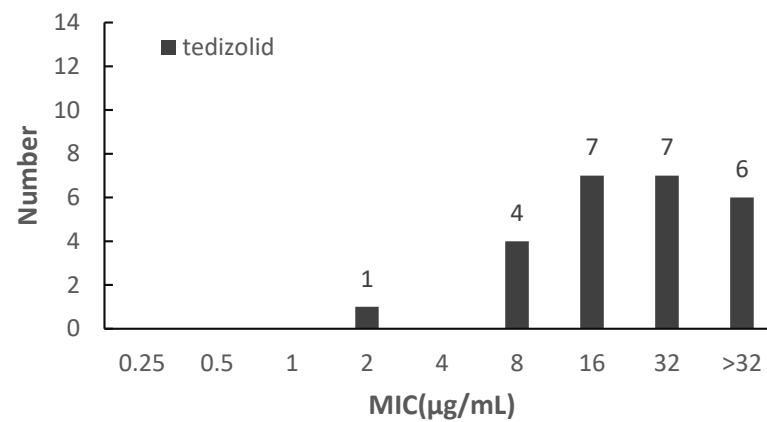
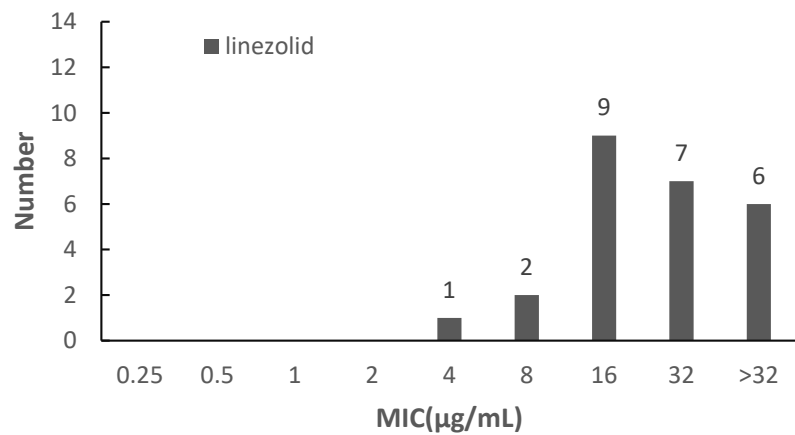
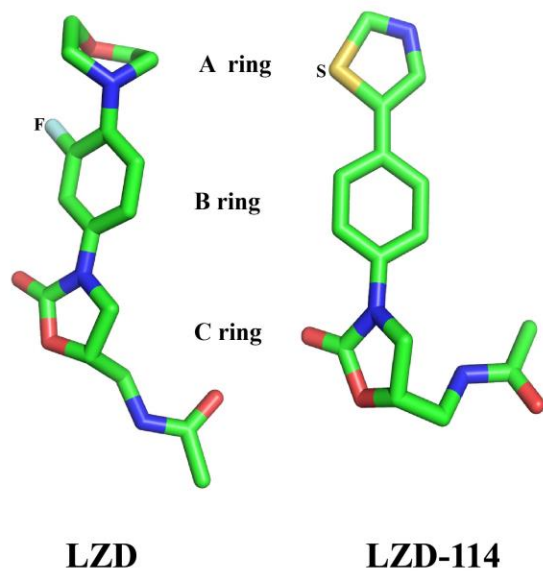
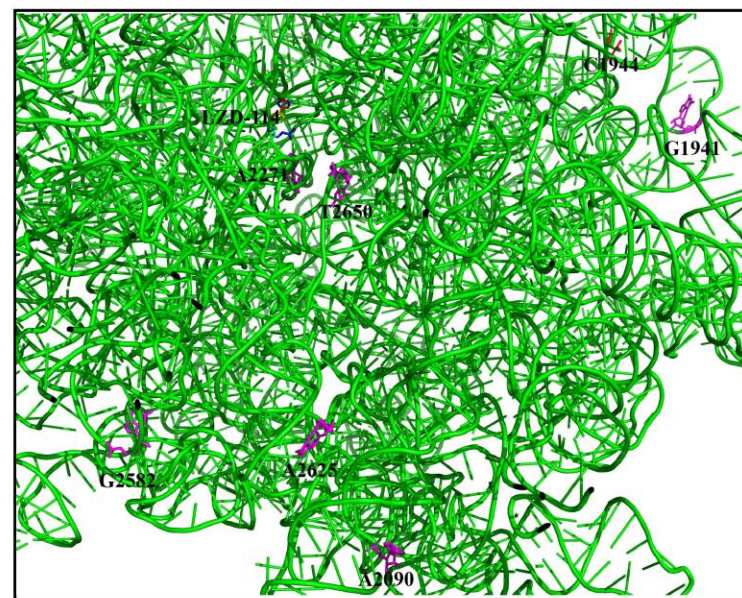


Figure.3

A



C



B

