Antibiotics Effectiveness Against Bacterial Infection Antibiotic Penicilin Streptomycin Neomycin 5,000 Total: 3,486.05 2,000 1,000 500 Average: 217.88 200 100 Total: 65.43 Total: 49.04 50 all (MIC) 20 10 Average: 3.07 0.5 0.2 0.1 0.05 0.02 0.01 0.005 0.002 0.001 0.0005 \star + \blacksquare \diamond \triangleright + \triangle \triangleleft \triangledown \bullet \square * \star \triangleright * \triangle \blacksquare + \square \diamond \triangledown + \bullet \triangleleft \triangledown \diamond \blacktriangle $\nabla \Box \triangleleft \diamondsuit \blacktriangle$ Bacteria Least (Most Effective) < < < < </p> Middle \times \times \times Most (Least Effective) \times \times \times \times \times \times 10 10 Relative MIC Counts 7 2 1 Least Middle Most Least Middle Most Least Middle Most

Context

After World War II, antibiotics were considered "wonder drugs," since they were an easy remedy for what had been intractable ailments. To learn which drug worked most effectively for which bacterial infection, the performance of the three most popular antibiotics on 16 bacteria were gathered. The minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) is a measure of the effectiveness of the antibiotic, which represents the concentration of antibiotics required to prevent growth in vitro.

Relative MIC Needed

Least (Most Effective)

Middle

Most (Least Effective)

This score compares an antibiotic's performance against the others. An antibiotic is more effective if it needed the least concentration (MIC) for a specific bacteria compared to the other two antibiotics.

Gram-Staining

negative

positive

Gram Staining

X negative

✓ positive

Bacteria

■ Aerobacter aerogenes

+ Brucella abortus

* Brucella anthracis

♦ Diplococcus pneumoniae

▲ Escherichia coli

▼ Klebsiella pneumoniae

◄ Mycobacterium tuberculosis

➤ Proteus vulgaris

Pseudomonas aeruginosa

■ Salmonella (Eberthella) typhosa

♣ Salmonella schottmuelleri

■ Staphylococcus albus

★ Staphylococcus aureus

◆ Streptococcus fecalis

▲ Streptococcus hemolyticus

▼ Streptococcus viridans