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IN VITRO SUSCEPTIBILITY OF DORIPENEM VERSUS IMIPENEM AGAINST ACINETOBACTER BAUMANNII AND PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA IN A 4 HOSPITAL SYSTEM(A1), Hope Le, Harminder Sikand. Scripps Mercy Hospital/Cardinal Health, San Diego, CA (le.hope@scrippshealth.org) IRB approval is received.

The emergence of multidrug resistant (MDR) isolates of gram negative bacilli such as *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* causing nosocomial infections continues to be a major problem worldwide. Carbapenems have remained one of the more active antibiotic classes against multidrug resistant pathogens, yet resistance is steadily increasing. In October 2007, the newest carbapenem, doripenem received FDA approval for the treatment of complicated abdominal and urinary tract infections. Doripenem reportedly has enhanced activity in vitro against resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and with limited data on comparative activity against *Acinetobacter baumannii*. Evaluation of in vitro susceptibility activity of doripenem compared to imipenem may give us another treatment option against resistant gram negative bacilli. This study will assess susceptibility patterns of *Acinetobacter baumannii* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* species to two carbapenems, imipenem and doripenem and determine if doripenem provides an advantage when imipenem resistant organisms are encountered. This retrospective and prospective laboratory based study will be conducted from August 2008 through May 2009. Isolates will be collected from four Scripps

hospitals in the San Diego area. The antimicrobial susceptibilities of the isolates against doripenem and imipenem will be analyzed using Epsilonometer test (Etest). Results and conclusion will be presented.