

**Susceptible (S):**

The infection due to the strain tested may be expected to respond to a normal dosage of this antimicrobial.

**Intermediate (I)**

The intermediate category implies clinical applicability in body sites where the drugs are concentrated (e.g. urine) or when high dosage of an antimicrobial can be used (e.g. betalactams).

The intermediate category also comprises a "buffer zone" which should prevent small uncontrolled technical factors from causing major discrepancies in interpretations; thus, when a zone falls within the intermediate range, the results may be considered equivocal, and if alternative drugs are not available MIC testing may be indicated.

**Resistant (R):**

The antimicrobial cannot be recommended for treatment in this case.

If only "S" criteria are specified:

For some organism/antimicrobial combinations, the absence of resistant strains precludes defining any category other than susceptible. For strains yielding results suggestive of "non susceptible", organism identification and antimicrobial susceptibility test results should be confirmed. Subsequently the isolates should be submitted to a Reference Laboratory for further testing.

**References:**

- 1) Gylling Pedersen O.: Standardizing, manufacture, and control of Neo-Sensitabs. Acta Clin. Belg., **28**, 139-149, 1973.
- 2) CLSI: Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Disk Susceptibility Tests. CLSI M02™, 2024.
- 3) Kauppila J. et al: Comparison of Neo-Sensitabs with paper disks in the routine disk diffusion antimicrobial susceptibility testing. ECCMID poster P-865, Barcelona 2008.
- 4) EUCAST Antimicrobial susceptibility testing ([https://www.eucast.org/ast\\_of\\_bacteria](https://www.eucast.org/ast_of_bacteria)).