region. While mutations conferring resistance to azithromycin are well established, this is not the case for fluoroquinolones. We aimed to define mutations associated with fluoroquinolone failure to inform next generation resistance assays.

**Methods** Samples from patients undergoing resistance-guided therapy with either moxifloxacin (Apr-2017–Jun-2018, 202 cases: 21 moxifloxacin failures) or sitafloxacin (Jun-2016–May-2017, 125 cases:12 sitafloxacin failures) were sequenced for key regions of **parC** and **gyrA** genes. Chi-square or Fisher’s exact tests were used to examine prevalence of each mutation and treatment outcome.

**Results** In an interim analysis the most common **parC** mutations were G248T (amino acid change S83I; 16%), G259A (D87N; 4%), G248A (S83N; 1%) and mutations effecting S83R (1%). G248T (S83I) mutation was more common among patients that failed moxifloxacin [15/21 failures (71%) vs 11/181 cures (6%), p<0.001] and sitafloxacin [6/12 failures (50%) vs 19/113 cures (17%), p=0.0063]. Notably, sitafloxacin cured a higher proportion of infections carrying the S83I mutation than moxifloxacin (76% vs 42%; p=0.015). **ParC** D87N was not associated with failure of moxifloxacin [1/21 failures (5%) vs 11/181 cures (6%)]. The most common **gyrA** mutations were G285A (M95I; 5%) and G295T (D99Y; 1%). An infection with an S83I mutation was more likely to fail treatment when combined with a **gyrA** mutation (M95I or D99N) (4/6 sitafloxacin failures with **parC** S83I also had **gyrA** mutation, compared to 1/16 cures; p=0.0093), suggesting an additive effect.

**Conclusion** This study provides compelling evidence that **parC** G248T (S83I) mutations contribute to failure of moxifloxacin and sitafloxacin used for macrolide-resistant **M. genitalium**. These data will inform the development of quinolone resistance assays needed to ensure optimal selection of antimicrobials in **M. genitalium**.

**Disclosure** No significant relationships.

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**004.4 PREDICTION OF AVAILABLE DRUG TARGETS OF NEISSERIA GONORRHOEAE BASED ON CODON USAGE PARAMETER**

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Background: **Neisseria gonorrhoeae** is a gram negative diplococcus bacterium and the causative agent of the sexually transmitted disease Gonorrhea. It has been recently given the status of ‘superbug’ by World Health Organization because of the increasing antibiotic resistance and unavailability of a viable vaccine candidate targeted against this bacterium. Over the recent years, there have been increasing reports about the use of subtractive genomics to identify potential drug and vaccine targets.

**Methods** Hence, present study utilizes the knowledge of Codon biasing, a tool to identify the essential genes in **N. gonorrhoeae** that could be used to target **Neisseria**. We identified a molecule/drug which can be used as a target against essential protein DapD (succinyltransferase).

**Conclusion** To conclude, through subtractive genomics, we could identify 29 genes that seem to be essential for the survival of the bacteria **Neisseria gonorrhoeae**. Identification of these genes can be helpful in understanding the pathogenesis of the bacteria as well. Moreover some of these genes are excellent drug targets as these are essential for the growth of bacteria. The selected molecule ZINC06311339 promises hope susceptibility. In order to assess assay performance, we analyzed 27 well characterized NG strains and 29 swabs (20 urethral, 9 penile meatal) previously tested by culture.

**Results** The instrument has a compact footprint (5’x5.3’x3.3’) and runs on a 5V, 2A power supply that can be provided by a small portable battery pack. Detection of NG and genotypic characterization of ciprofloxacin susceptibility was completed in <40 minutes. The cartridge-based assay correctly identified 100% (27/27) of the NG isolates as well as 100% (10/10) of the ciprofloxacin-resistant NG strains. All urethral and penile swabs were correctly identified as well (15/15 positive, 14/14 negative).

**Conclusion** Magnetofluidic assay cartridges allow automation of NAAT-based testing for NG and assessment of antimicrobial susceptibility. The portability, low power consumption, and ease-of-use of our platform has potential for enabling rapid diagnostics at the POC and in low-resource settings to guide targeted use of antimicrobials. Further studies with clinical samples are warranted.

**Disclosure** No significant relationships.
for treating this pathogen after having validated through experimental study.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

005 – FEMALE GENITAL INFECTIONS, IMMUNOLOGY AND MICROBIOME

Monday, July 15, 2019 4:15 PM – 5:45 PM

005.1 LOWER GENITAL TRACT PREDICTORS OF ACUTE ENDOMETRITIS AMONG WOMEN WITH SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF PELVIC INFLAMMATORY DISEASE (PID)

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Background PID is diagnosed clinically when women have cervical motion, uterine and/or adnexal tenderness, but many women meeting these clinical criteria have no histological evidence of endometritis on endometrial biopsy. The objective of this study was to evaluate vaginal microbiological predictors of acute endometritis among women with signs and symptoms of PID.

Methods The Anaerobes and Clearance of Endometritis (ACE) study enrolled women with symptomatic PID in a clinical trial (NCT01160640) comparing treatment regimens with or without metronidazole. This analysis included 169 women who had evaluable endometrial biopsies; acute endometritis was defined as ≥1 plasma cell per 120X field in the stroma plus ≥5 neutrophils per 400X field in the epithelium. Chlamydia trachomatis (CT) and Neisseria gonorrhoeae (GC) were detected by Aptima Combo 2 and vaginal swabs were evaluated by quantitative PCR for five species of Lactobacillus (crispatus, vaginalis, jensenii, gasseri, iners), three species of Prevotella (bivia, timonensis, amnii), Atopobium vaginae, Gardnerella vaginalis and Megaplasma phylotype 1.

Results Only 31(18%) of 169 women with diagnosed PID had endometrial histology consistent with acute endometritis. By univariate analysis, lower genital tract CT, GC and BV-associated bacteria were each associated with increased endometritis, while L. crispatus, L. jensenii and L. vaginalis were negatively associated (P <0.05 for each). Based on the results of multivariable regression and factor analyses, a risk score for acute endometritis was developed combining CT (3 points), G. vaginalis, A. vaginae and P. amnii (1 point each if <10⁶, 2 points each if ≥10⁶) and L. crispatus (-2 points if <10⁶ and -4 points if ≥10⁶). A score of 5 or more detected 27 (87%) of 31 cases of endometritis and had a negative predictive value of 96%.

Conclusion Among women with symptomatic PID, a simple lower genital tract risk score including CT plus 4 vaginal bacteria was a predictor of acute endometritis.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

005.2 CHARACTERIZING THE IMPACT OF PENILE-VAGINAL SEX ON HIV-SUSCEPTIBLE CD4+ T CELL SUBSETS IN THE FEMALE GENITAL TRACT

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Background HIV in women is often acquired across the female genital tract mucosa, and a key parameter determining mucosal HIV susceptibility is the density of HIV-susceptible CD4+ T cells, particularly activated CD4+ T cells and Th17 cells. However, although most HIV transmission occurs during sex, the impact of sex itself on CD4+ T cell subsets is poorly described.

Methods STI-free heterosexual couples (N=40) were recruited. Blood, cervicovaginal secretions and a cervical cytobrush were collected from the female partner at baseline; couples then had penile-vaginal sex 48h later, with repeat sampling after 1–2 hr and 72 hr. Couples either had unprotected sex (n=31) or condom-protected sex (n=11); two couples participated twice, once with and once without a condom. Cytobrush-derived CD4+ T cell subsets were assessed by flow cytometry, and paired changes assessed by Wilcoxon signed-rank test.

Results The proportion of endocervical Th17 (CCR6+) cells transiently increased 1–2 hr after penile-vaginal sex (median increase = 4.95%; p=0.006), and returned to baseline by 3 days. Endocervical activated (HLA-DR+) CD4+ T cells also increased after 1–2 hr, but these increases persisted for >72 hr (1.63%; p=0.007 and 4.75%; p<0.0001, respectively). Importantly, increases in both types of HIV target cells were only apparent after condomless sex (5.0% for CCR6; P=0.015 and 2.11% for HLA-DR; P=0.006), with no increase seen after condom-protected sex (1.1% for CCR6; 0.7% for HLA-DR; both p>0.3). The expression of CCR5 and the frequency of other cervical CD4+ T cell subsets, including Th1 and Trm, were unchanged after sex.

Conclusion Penile-vaginal sex rapidly increased the proportion of cervical Th17 cells and activated CD4+ T cells, thought to be key endocervical CD4+ T cell HIV targets. Future work will assess the impact of sex on genital cytokine levels and the microbiota, and correlate cervical immune changes with semen parameters in the male partner.

Disclosure No significant relationships.

005.3 THE COMBINED CONTRACEPTIVE VAGINAL RING INCREASES TH17-RELATED CYTOKINES IN THE GENITAL TRACT: A RANDOMIZED CROSSOVER TRIAL

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Background Progestin only-injections (NET-EN and DMPA) have been reported to increase HIV target cells in the female

Disclosure No significant relationships.