**Corso Precongressuale C GUIDA PRATICA AI NUOVI CRITERI INTERPRETATIVI DELL'ANTIBIOGRAMMA**

**LE NUOVE DEFINIZIONI DELLE CATEGORIE CLINICHE E L'AREA DI INCERTEZZA TECNICA**

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Since January 2019 EUCAST has decided to change the definitions of the categories S, I and R. The major change regards the "Intermediate" category, that has been replaced with "Susceptible, high exposure", stressing the curability of infections due to formerly "Intermediate" pathogens in condition of high concentration of the drug at the site of infection. Besides, the uncertainty of results was removed from the definition and moved in a new dedicated field of "area of technical uncertainty" (ATU). The impact of this change is important and is requiring great effort from the laboratories to adapt accordingly.

The background and the evolution at the base of EUCAST committee decision are presented. The modification is indeed the product of a long discussion that started in 2015 and ended in 2018 with the new definition of "I" and the creation of the ATU. The major and the most challenging changes up to now are discussed, with special regard to the sensitive high exposure (HE) combinations and the ATU resolution. Finally, further modifications, which are expected for 2020 (i.e. the new breakpoint for aminoglycosides), are addressed.