The global dissemination of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriales (CPE) over the last two decades has become a worldwide public health concern. Accumulating resistance of enteric Gram-negative bacteria to all but the last-line antibiotics threatens our ability not only to treat common infections, but also the safety of invasive surgical or immunosuppressive treatments that require effective antimicrobial prophylaxis.

Fortunately, a number of new antibiotic and β-lactamase-inhibitor combinations gaining regulatory approval over the last five years have proven to be more effective with less toxicity than colistin-based regimens. Nevertheless, the efficacy of many new β-lactamase inhibitors varies from one region to the next depending on the types of carbapenemase in circulation and emerging resistance to newer agents.

Therefore, it is timely that in this JAC Supplement, Paul and colleagues have taken the opportunity to review the current evidence for management of KPC-producing Klebsiella pneumoniae. The topics span from infection control, surgical prophylaxis, and clinical outcomes in ICU and transplant populations to the evaluation of antimicrobial stewardship practices and review of data supporting newer treatment options.

We hope this supplement will be a valued resource for healthcare professionals faced with managing CPE infections, as well as those who take an academic interest in them and we envisage it will prompt further discussion on the research priorities needed to address this omnipresent resistant threat.

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