all these reasons, the presence of PMQR in reptiles should be seen as a public health concern.

Acknowledgements
Some of these data were presented in a poster (no. 2881) at the European Congress of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, Vienna, 2010.

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Transparency declarations
None to declare.

Supplementary data
Table S1 and Figure S1 are available as Supplementary data at JAC Online (http://jac.oxfordjournals.org/).

References
solutions (10 or 20 g/L, prepared by dissolving the standard powder doses of 1 or 2 g in 100 mL of water for injection) at room temperature (preparation time ~10 min), and then cooled and maintained at 4 °C in a standard home refrigerator for up to 4 weeks. Every week, three new pumps of each concentration were sampled for testing of stability under storage, and then brought to and maintained at room temperature for an additional 24 h (as would be the case if used to treat a patient), and resampled. Temocillin was assayed by a previously validated HPLC method. Data were analysed by two-way ANOVA (time, concentration and interaction parameters were all statistically significant at P < 0.001) and linear regression. Each relevant data pair was analysed independently by two-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-tests. A limit of stability of 90% was taken, as in our previous studies.  

The results are presented in Table 1. At 4 °C, temocillin proved >90% stable for ≥4 weeks. No significant differences were observed between the pumps or the two concentrations tested. Likewise, temocillin remained on average >90% stable for ≥24 h at room temperature after being removed from the refrigerator. Only a minimally faster degradation was seen for the 20 g/L compared with the 10 g/L concentration when using the Intermate® pump, but these differences did not cause the 90% threshold to be reached (except for one replicate after 4 weeks at 4 °C and 24 h at room temperature, but for the 10 g/L concentration only).  

In conclusion, temocillin was shown to remain stable in elastomeric devices commonly used for OPAT when stored (up to 4 weeks) and handled as for home-based therapy. By application of a principle of precaution, we would, however, recommend to users: (i) not to store the pumps for >3 weeks at 4 °C; (ii) to install a temperature-monitoring device in the refrigerator where the pumps are stored; and (iii) to strictly limit the storage to 24 h once out of the refrigerator. OPAT with temocillin performed under these conditions may be both helpful and safe for CF patients when Bcc infection is suspected or proven.

### Table 1. Temocillin stability in elastomeric devices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Storage conditions</th>
<th>Pump</th>
<th>Initial temocillin concentration (g/L)</th>
<th>0 week</th>
<th>1 week</th>
<th>2 weeks</th>
<th>3 weeks</th>
<th>4 weeks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4°C</td>
<td>Easypump®</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100 ± 1.6</td>
<td>98.7 ± 1.1</td>
<td>98.5 ± 0.8</td>
<td>96.2 ± 0.9</td>
<td>95.5 ± 0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100 ± 1.0</td>
<td>99.4 ± 0.7</td>
<td>98.3 ± 0.3</td>
<td>96.2 ± 0.6</td>
<td>95.5 ± 0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intermate®</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100 ± 1.0</td>
<td>99.6 ± 0.4</td>
<td>97.1 ± 0.7</td>
<td>94.5 ± 0.8</td>
<td>94.8 ± 0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>100 ± 3.1</td>
<td>97.7 ± 0.3</td>
<td>95.0 ± 0.2</td>
<td>93.1 ± 0.1</td>
<td>94.1 ± 0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4°C + 24 h at room temp</td>
<td>Easypump®</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>96.4 ± 1.7C</td>
<td>98.1 ± 0.8</td>
<td>97.1 ± 1.2</td>
<td>94.9 ± 0.2</td>
<td>91.1 ± 0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20B</td>
<td>98.5 ± 1.2C,D</td>
<td>98.5 ± 0.6D</td>
<td>96.3 ± 0.4</td>
<td>94.8 ± 0.3D</td>
<td>91.0 ± 0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Intermate®</td>
<td>10B</td>
<td>97.1 ± 1.8</td>
<td>97.8 ± 0.4</td>
<td>98.6 ± 0.5</td>
<td>95.1 ± 0.9</td>
<td>91.5 ± 1.6+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20A,D</td>
<td>96.2 ± 0.5D</td>
<td>95.6 ± 1.7D</td>
<td>96.3 ± 0.3</td>
<td>92.6 ± 1.0D</td>
<td>92.0 ± 1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All values are means ± SD (n = 3); only relevant pairwise comparisons (between brand at the same concentrations and storage conditions, among a brand between concentrations, and between storage conditions) were made by two-way ANOVA taking all values in a row. The capital letters A or B indicate rows between which the difference was significant (P < 0.05). The Bonferroni post-test was then used to analyse the corresponding pairs in each column, and pairs with significant differences (P < 0.05) are marked by the capital letters C or D.  

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### Transparency declarations

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### References