

Microbiology Council Minutes

Thursday, July 31st, 2014, 7:00 pm

Review and sign-off of the minutes is mandatory for all Micro staff prior to next meeting.

Deadline 9-25-2014

Attendees

Facilitator: Jerry Claridge Note taker: Michael Majors

Present: Jennifer Baldwin Bonney, Krystal Colwill, Tiesha McCain, Cassi Miller, Joanne Turner, Tony Vang

Excused: Shannon Sabins

Review / Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes were approved. No corrections or edits were submitted.

Reflection

The reflection was provided by Tony

Financial Update for the Medical Center

Month of May above budget. Financials look better.

Old Business

CBSBS vs. CGEN

People have been good about initialing the labels when these are set up. Mistakes have reduced. Please continue following this process.

New Employee Training

From the March meeting... Based on the Employee Survey from last year, the microbiology department determined an action item would be employee training. Micro Council has been working on this action item for several months with input from staff to develop checklists for each area. Jen reported that the checklist for the Urine culture bench is complete and she is still working on other areas.

Action items

	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Continue training checklist/schedule development for other areas.	Jen	09/25/2014

Reminder for AFB Tissues

All tissues submitted for AFB culture must be frozen in the -70 °C freezer after smear and culture set up.

Antibiotic Disk Dispensers

If you replace one cartridge in a disk dispenser, all of the other cartridges should be replaced at the same time. We waste time and efficiency by replacing each one as they run out. When testing single drugs, utilize the individual cartridges whenever possible so that the dispenser cartridges.

CSTAPH

The new MSSA/MRSA culture is live and in the test directory. NSA was added to the keyboard to report negative cultures.

Employee Survey Action Plans - Communication

The White Board has been working well to communicate pertinent information from shift to shift. Please continue using the board to communicate information regarding testing, reporting, processing, scheduling, etc. Remember to check the board when you start your shift.

New Business

Platelet Study

Microbiology will be working with INBC and Blood Systems, Inc. to provide data for a study on the sterility of apheresis platelets. We will be culturing platelet samples for several months. More details on the protocol will follow.

New Preservative Coming for O&P Specimens

Medical Chemical Corporation will be phasing out Unifix and replacing it with a preservative called Total-Fix. Total-Fix is similar to Unifix, but lacks PVA. By removing PVA from the preservative, samples are compatible with EIA and molecular assays. However, without the PVA, it will be critical to dry the smears for a minimum of 30 min at 37 °C. The Ova and Parasite Procedure will be updated for processing samples from either Unifix or Total-Fix. PAML will be converting to Total-Fix in the coming months.

Reminder for IPTO and EIT

Be sure to notify someone in the department AND leave a message for Jerry or the charge tech when you are calling in sick. The message needs to get back to Jason if time permits a schedule adjustment.

Urine Isolates of Lactobacillus

We have a new susceptibility comment available for use when $\geq 100,000$ Lactobacillus is reported for a urine culture. However, the comment should only be used when isolates are confirmed to be resistant to Vancomycin. This has proven to be problematic for some isolates that grow poorly, and many isolates end up being vanco-susceptible and the comment is not applicable. Although imperfect, this is currently the best approach we have for Lactobacillus urine isolates.

Inoculab Update

The Inoculab instruments will only be serviced by BD through the middle of November. While other instrumentation has been examined, no decisions have been made on when/if the Inoculab instruments will be replaced.

Milk Donor Cultures

A question was raised about which pending list contains the donor milk cultures. They should be on the 5th Bench pending list.

Free Texting

While free texting should be avoided due to issues with Epic, we occasionally encounter organism names that are not built in Sunquest. If you encounter one of these, please notify Jan so that the name can be built.

Weekend MGIT QC

Someone submitted a suggestion that the weekend MGIT QC be returned to the blood bench tech instead of the lab assistant that is digesting specimens because QC has been missed. The council discussed the issue and determined that there was a lack of training for a few individuals. The council recommended that the responsibility should remain with the person digesting AFB specimens and that everyone involved receive necessary training for recording MGIT QC. It might be helpful to put up a sign as a reminder to complete the QC.

Action items

Person responsible Deadline

- ✓ Identify individuals that need training and make sure they are trained. Jerry 9/25/2014
- ✓ Put up a reminder sign.

Cornea Specimens in Thio Broth

People are forgetting to check for thio-broth cultures when they examine plates. Part of the issue is that a thio is not always set, depending on what material was submitted. A suggestion was made to put the thio cultures where the old wound plates are incubated so they would be seen. After some discussion the group decided that this would be an inconvenient location for people that don't normally access the 2nd day wound cultures. The group recommended that we keep the current incubation location but it would be helpful if the person that was processing the sample would write on the BAP, "THIO SET" so the plate reader would know to check.

Action items

Person responsible Deadline

- ✓ Update Specimen Processing Procedure. Michael 9/25/2014

Designated Area for “QC in Progress”

A suggestion was made to label a spot in the refrigerator to designate materials that are undergoing QC.

Action items

✓ Label area in the refrigerator.

Person responsible **Deadline**

Jen/Joanne

9/25/2014

Frequency of Micro Council Meetings

The items being submitted for Micro Council discussion have diminished over time. A suggestion was made to decrease the frequency of the meetings to every other month or even quarterly. The council decided to try every other month and then re-evaluate.

Safety

No items were submitted.

R&D and Technical Updates

We have evaluated a new BD MAX assay for bacterial enteric pathogens. The assay includes Campylobacter, Salmonella, Shigella, and Shiga toxin-producing E. coli. The assay was evaluated with culture-positive specimens that have been archived in the freezer. The MAX assay performed well with the specimens. The assay will likely replace culture for inpatient testing due to the reduction in TAT and the fact that the direct cost of the assay is very close to culture.

We are also evaluating an assay for the rapid detection of ESBL. Since the BioFire assay lacks ESBL markers, the impact of the ID on therapeutic changes is diminished. A non-commercial assay developed in Europe appears to be a potential solution. The test can be performed from positive blood cultures. The assay involves about 15 min of labor and 15 min of incubation.

The next Micro Council Meeting will be held

September 25th at 19:00*

Reflection to be provided by Jen

*** Please note date change**