

# Microbiology Council Minutes

Thursday, July 23, 2015

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

Deadline 12/23/2015

## Attendees

Facilitator: Jason Ammons Note taker: Michael Majors

Present: Savanna Castillo, Nick Fuller, Steinnun Lonam, John Lord, Phyllis Verduin

Absent: Ashley English, Shannon Sabins

## Review / Approval of Previous Minutes

No corrections or edits were submitted.

## Reflection

The reflection was provided by Jason.

## Old Business

### New Employee Training

The training checklists have been completed and will be reviewed for any final edits. A suggestion was made to create training notebooks to keep all training checklists for new employees rather.

## New Business

### Initialing Plates

Plates and smears must be initialed by the person inoculating the media in the biosafety cabinet. This person is responsible for verifying that the patient and test information is correct, and that the correct media are being used. This will not identify persons that may be putting plates away incorrectly. Please pay close attention to these critical details.

### New Hires/Position Changes

Bryan Knowles (new eve MLS), Nikolay Peganov (new supplemental lab assistant and current MLS student), Ashley will be moving to Phyllis's position, and Abigail will be moving to Steinnun's eve position. The positions that are currently open include a 72-h supplemental MLS and a 72-h dayshift MLS.

### Setup Priority List

A request was made to develop a priority list for technical staff and lab assistant working in the setup area. While there are too many variable to create a fixed priority list, a list that outlines the work that should be completed by end-of-shift would be helpful.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Create a setup duty list for 1 <sup>st</sup> shift.	Nick	12/13/15
✓ Create a setup duty list for 2 <sup>nd</sup> shift.	Steinnun	12/13/15

These lists will be posted on the bulletin board in the PAML setup area.

### Competency Assessment Program

Evening shift is struggling to complete the documentation for the competency program. Workload has been extremely high and they have been short-staffed and/or training new hires. One possible solution might be to schedule someone from 1<sup>st</sup> shift to come in for a few hours on evening shift to help with direct observations and documentation. Ideal days/times would be Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday from 1600 to 2000.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Check to see if we can schedule someone to help eves with competency documentation.	Jason/JBB	11/2015

## Gram Stains on Genital Specimens for Patients < 13 years of age

A Polly Clinic provider is requesting smears on genital specimens “regardless of age.” For these requests, Dr. Robinson indicated that we can report the presence of cells (neutrophils) and the presence or absence of yeast. We will not report for GC or BV. The procedure will be updated.

## Direct AST on GNRs during 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift

A suggestion was made to discontinue setting direct AST for GNRs during 3<sup>rd</sup> shift. These are often too young to be read on 1<sup>st</sup> shift. After a follow up discussion with Dr. Robinson, it was decided that these AST results should be reported for lactose-fermenters on 2<sup>nd</sup> shift once they reach 16-18 h incubation. The Blood Bench tech on 1<sup>st</sup> shift is responsible for communicating with 2<sup>nd</sup> shift when there is a direct Kirby Bauer to report.

## 1300 Urine Cultures

A question was submitted about the necessity for waiting until 1300 to examine the urine cultures in the 1300 row. Can they be examined earlier in the day? Answer: No... Cultures must be at least 18 h old for AST as part of the FDA-cleared protocol for testing on the Phoenix.

## Break Reminder

You get two 15-min breaks and one 30-min lunch. Breaks cannot be taken at the end of your shift.

## Recording All 3 Analyte Results for VAGPAN Tests

A suggestion was made to document all 3 results from BD Affirm testing, even when a VAGPAN is ordered. We've had cases where the orders get changed and the Trichomonas result is requested. It was agreed that these results should be documented on the result sheet, but not entered into LIS unless orders are changed.

## Equipment Culture on the Pending Log

A request was made to move the equipment cultures to the 5<sup>th</sup> bench pending log. This was agreed upon.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ Modify the pending logs for this test.	Jan	12/13/15

## Safety

Dr. Robinson provided safety in-services to the Microbiology staff on 11/11. She reminded people about specific practices that must be followed for everyone's safety. If you see someone that is not adhering to safety guidelines, SAY SOMETHING to remind them! Repeat offenders that chose to ignore safety precautions will be subject to progressive discipline.

## R&D Update

- MALDI-TOF! ☺ The instrument will be installed in January. Four to five people will be identified for the initial training and will help start the verification studies with the first group of organisms (GNRs). More details to follow. MALDI-TOF! ☺
- There are several projects in Microbiology that will be part of student's research. One of the projects will be working on optimizing our procedure for anaerobic cultures.
- The BioFire Meningitis panel has received FDA clearance. We will be evaluating the assay over the next few months. If you have any positive CSF cultures, please let Michael know so the specimen can be retrieved. The panel includes: *Escherichia coli*, *Haemophilus influenzae*, *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Neisseria meningitidis*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus agalactiae*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, Cytomegalovirus (CMV), Enterovirus, Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), Herpes simplex virus 1 (HSV-1), Herpes simplex virus 2 (HSV-2), Human herpesvirus 6 (HHV-6), Parechovirus, Varicella-zoster virus (VZV), and *Cryptococcus neoformans/gattii*

- BD MAX StaphSR assay for use with positive blood cultures with staph. Some of the advantages of using the StaphSR assay over the BioFire panel would be:
  - Elimination of the front-end tube coagulase testing
  - We wouldn't miss the *S. aureus* isolates that fail to produce a positive 4-hour tube coagulase
  - We wouldn't falsely report MRSA when there is a mixture of MSSA & MR-CoNS
  - The TAT would be similar or better

#### **Kudos & Thanks!**

- Thank you Kathy for working so many extra hours, coming in early, and helping during times when we have been short-staffed. Your help has been greatly appreciated!
- Thank you to the lab assistants for all your hard work. We appreciate you!

The next Micro Council Meeting will be held

**2/2016 (TBD)**

Reflection will be provided by Savanna