

Microbiology Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2021

12:15 to 12:45

Present: Laura S, Moses, Solomon, David and Joanne

1. Brucella media:
 - Laura S has placed a sleeve on the media caddy to be kept at room temperature
 - The slot it is in is labelled BRU on both sides
 - Please ensure you select the correct media
 - Moses is skeptical that the wrong plate won't be selected but Laura S and everyone agrees it has not been difficult so we will continue this
2. Appointments:
 - If people could continue to tell me about appointments but also write it on the white board that will be helpful
 - Everyone agreed that this is fine to do
3. Stock up supplies:
 - Please ensure to stock up benches regularly
 - It is everyone's responsibility to do this not just Laura S
 - When you have free time please do this, especially before the weekends
 - Joanne said she would be interested in performing this task which Laura S agreed would be very helpful
4. COVID bench:
 - Not as busy anymore so please help the other staff members with any tasks they need help with
 - Also take the time to get all mandatory reading/learning completed
5. C.diff validation:
 - It is finished and submitted to DynaLIFE
 - Solomon helped me complete this task
 - Training will be occurring in December, so we are ready to go with this testing
6. TB validation:
 - We are going to start the validation for TB on the GeneXpert
 - This will allow us to perform STAT requests instead of the smear
 - Once we get more staff, we will be able to take on more of this testing
7. Weekends:
 - We are only going to be able to have 1 tech working the weekends until staffing increases
 - Laura G will be off until at least January
 - COVID testing will be limited to only urgent or STH patient samples
 - Jennifer is aware of this

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8. Core lab:

- Laura S worked the last weekend and had break in the breakroom with core lab members
- She was faced with a lot of questions and comments from them
- The experience was very negative
- Laura S wants to make sure that this isn't happening to other micro staff members and if it is please speak to me or Jennifer
- We do not need to justify the work we perform in this department or face questioning by other staff members

9. GX IV:

- Taiga is returning the GX IV
- This will be used for C.diff testing and for the urgent COVID samples performed on the weekend

10. COVID cartridges:

- Laura S wants to make sure everyone knows we have a mixture of COVID cartridges for the GeneXpert
- Some have E and N2 Ct values and the other has SARS-CoV-2 Ct value

11. Inuvik BC:

- We have been receiving more of these and they are not following the correct process
- Laura S has made a job aid for them to follow to ensure they perform their part correctly
- Please ensure we perform our part correctly as per the procedure on the BACTEC

12. E-tests:

- Laura S did the weekly QC last week and the paper E-tests are very difficult to use
- She is going to start ordering the plastic ones from Biomerieux
- We will use the paper ones up first

13. Staffing:

- Laura G is off until January
- Neahlanna will be coming from Inuvik and starting the beginning of February. She worked at ProvLab for a few years in micro
- Phoenix will be leaving December 31
- Kalie will be starting next Monday as the new COVID clerk

14. Laura S leave:

- Laura S will be on leave next week
- Moses will be acting

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15.Roundtable:

Moses: Since we are so short now can we remind HR to send their blood cultures as soon as possible. It is too much work to do the >24 hour workup. Laura S will talk to Jennifer again to see what we can do. Ultimately HR needs their own BACTEC

Meeting adjourned