Title: MIC32000-Oral Culture Type: Laboratory Services Program SOP Policy Number:

Issuing Authority: Director of Health Services

Next Review Date: Date Approved:

> PROGRAM Standard Operating Procedure – Laboratory Services Title: MIC32000 - Oral Culture Policy Number: Program Name: Laboratory Services Applicable Domain: Lab, DI and Pharmacy Services Additional Domain(s): Next Review Date: Effective Date: Date Approved: Issuing Authority: Director of Health Services Accreditation Canada Applicable Standard: N/A

GUIDING PRINCIPLE:

Mouth swabs are usually obtained to identify oral yeast infections (thrush). Thrush is a common infection of the mouth and tongue caused by the yeast Candida albicans. Thrush appears as white patches that look like cottage cheese or milk curds.

PURPOSE/RATIONALE:

To determine the presence or absence of yeast (thrush) in oral specimens.

SCOPE/APPLICABILITY:

This procedure applies to Medical Laboratory Technologists (MLTs) processing specimens for oral culture.

SAMPLE INFORMATION:

Tymo	Swab	
Туре	Amie's with or without charcoal	
Source	Mouth or tongue	
Stability	 If the sample is received in the laboratory and processed greater than 48 hours from collection: Add specimen quality comment: "Delayed transport may adversely affect pathogen recovery" 	
Storage Requirements	Room temperature	
Criteria for rejection	 Unlabeled/mislabeled swabs Specimen container label does not match patient identification on requisition Duplicate specimens obtained with same collection method within 24 hours 	

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REAGENTS and/or MEDIA:

Sabouraud Dextrose agar (SAB)

SUPPLIES:

- Disposable inoculation needles
- Microscope slides
- Sterile saline
- Wooden sticks
- Coverslips

EQUIPMENT:

- Biosafety cabinet
- Vitek 2 and supplies

SPECIAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

Containment Level 2 facilities, equipment, and operational practices for work involving infectious or potential infectious materials or cultures.

- Ensure that appropriate hand hygiene practices be used.
- Lab gown must be worn when performing activities with potential pathogens.
- Gloves must be worn when direct skin contact with infected materials is unavoidable.
- Eye protection must be used when there is a known or potential risk of exposure of splashes.
- All procedures that may produce aerosols, or involve high concentrations or large volumes should be conducted in a biological safety cabinet (BSC).
- The use of needles, syringes and other sharp objects should be strictly limited.

All patient specimens are assumed to be potentially infectious. Routine Practices must be followed. Since viable micro-organisms are used, all cultures must be handled with appropriate precautions. All equipment in contact with cultures should be decontaminated by appropriate methods.

QUALITY CONTROL:

Refer to Test Manual for reagent quality control procedures

PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS:

Step	Action		
Proces	Processing specimens for oral culture		
1	 In the biosafety cabinet: Inoculate SAB with the swab Ensure all surfaces of swab make contact with the agar Streak for isolated growth using a disposable inoculation needle Write on the plate the date of the 48-hour read 		
2	Incubate the media: • Place SAB on the workbench		

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INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS:

Step	Action		
1	 Observe SAB plate at 48 hours Examine for white, creamy colonies resembling yeast 		
	IF	THEN	
2	Colonies resembling yeast NOT seen	Workup completeYeast not isolated	
	Colonies resembling yeast seen	Perform wet prep	
	IF	THEN	
3	Wet prep NEGATIVE	Workup completeYeast not isolated	
	Wet prep POSITIVE	Perform Vitek 2 YST card	

REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS:

IF	REPORT
Yeast not isolated	Report: "No Yeast Isolated"
Yeast Isolated, Candida spp.	Report organisms identificationList quantitation as "Isolated"
Yeast Isolated, not <i>Candida</i> spp.	 Add isolate: "Yeast (NOT Candida albicans) Use LIS OrgID: ystnot List quantitation as "Isolated"

LIMITATIONS:

- 1. The Vitek 2 YST card provides an acceptable identification for *Candida* spp. and results can be reported as tested.
- 2. If yeast other than *Candida* spp. is isolated, the identification should not be reported in oral samples.

REFERENCES:

- 1. Leber, A. (2016). *Clinical microbiology procedures handbook.* (4thed.) Washington, D.C.: ASM Press
- Jorgensen J.H., Pfaller M.A., Carroll K.C., Funke G., Landry M.L., Richter S.S., Warnock D.W. (2015). *Manual of Clinical Microbiology*, 11th edition. Washington, D.C: ASM Press

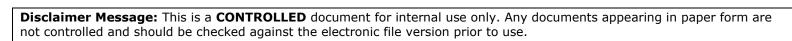
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APPROVAL:			
Date		_	

REVISION HISTORY:

REVISION	DATE	Description of Change	REQUESTED BY
1.0	06 Nov 17	Initial Release	L. Steven
2.0	04 Dec 18	Updated to include new Vitek 2 instrument	L. Steven
3.0	11 Jan 21	Procedure reviewed and added to NTHSSA policy template	L. Steven



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