

Microbiology Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2023
12:15 to 12:45

1. ≤ 10 colonies in urines:
 - If ≤ 10 colonies in urines it is no significant growth
 - Even if 3 or more, if ≤ 10 colonies it is no significant growth, not mixed
 - Even if it is a uropathogen, if ≤ 10 colonies it is no significant growth
 - Even if it is GBS, if ≤ 10 colonies it is no significant growth

2. Trich rapid test:
 - Wet prep is not a very accurate test for Trichomonas, only about 50 to 60% accurate
 - Molecular is very accurate but requires a new collection device and is very expensive
 - There is a rapid antigen test for Trichomonas that is very good, 96% accurate and very easy to use. Laura S has used it in the past
 - We are looking into validating this test however positive samples will be an issue
 - Please save any positive swabs for Trich and put in the rack in the specimen fridge
 - Laura S is going to order the kit so we can start running them when we get positives

3. Strep AST card validation:
 - It is going well. Last week were able to complete the reproducibility portion which is running the QC 3 times for 5 days. Worked and info is on worksheet
 - Starting the accuracy portion which involves running KB/ET and Vitek card to compare
 - Will be a significant improvement when ready to use

4. Samples not received from other labs:
 - The not received list needs to be checked daily
 - If there is a sample from another lab and it should have been here by then please call the ordering lab and determine where the sample is
 - Some of the labs are difficult to get ahold of so make an effort and if you cannot reach someone then cancel the specimen with not received at Stanton microbiology lab as the reason
 - Make sure you leave communication as to what you did so someone doesn't repeat the work you already did

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5. Calling positive COVID results to OCPHO:
 - We do not need to call these results to HPU1 anymore
 - We do need to call the ordering location still. It is still a critical result
 - Laura S will change the procedures to reflect this

6. Sending positive COVID samples to Edmonton for variant screening:
 - ProvLab is not longer doing variant screening on COVID samples, only doing sequencing which is a more in-depth test
 - OCPHO needs to initial sequencing testing, we cannot send samples for this
 - Going forward, we will only log and store Positive COVID samples. We will not be sending them to Edmonton and will not be ordering ?REFE. Just order the media STORE
 - Make sure you put on the log what the sample is positive for
 - The PCR person will do this as they happen. Don't put it in the rack in the fridge anymore. Also, don't need to save the printouts.

7. Storing positive Flu and Enterovirus samples:
 - We still need to store these samples and log them on the log sheets
 - Please put what the sample is positive for on the log sheet

8. Bench duties:
 - Before Laura S went on vacation, we discussed who was doing what for the weekly duties
 - Laura S has updated the bench duties sheets and the check sheets for each bench
 - Not everything is working on TQC so make sure to check your sheets so you know what you are responsible for

9. Roundtable:
 - Moses: Wanted to remind everyone that if you have a difficult sample and are not sure what to do and Laura S or a more experienced tech is not available we have the option to call DynaLIFE and speak to a microbiologist. This is part of our contract with them. Make sure to have all relevant information ready so they can help you decide what to do. Laura S agrees that this is a very good resource and can be very helpful

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- Moses: DynaLIFE came to do a visit of the micro lab many years ago and it was very helpful. Since it is difficult for us to go see the work they do, can we have a remote conference where we can ask questions? Laura S said it is a good idea and she will look into it.