

Microbiology Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2023

12:15 to 13:15

1. YST ID-SOP and Job Aid:
 - Went over the YST ID SOP. Use the VITEK YST ID card for identification of yeast.
 - ID from card can only be reported for Candida species and the ID of Candida species needs to be >90% or is unacceptable.
 - Job aid is a flow chart on what and how to report yeast in different specimens.
 - Main point is yeast culture (CXYST) and oral culture (CXORL) are screens for *C.albicans*. If yeast is isolated in these specimens, if it is *C.albicans* it is reported. If not *C.albicans* it is reported as Yeast, not *C.albicans*. These are the only specimens that Yeast, not *C.albicans* should be reported.
 - Need to follow specific culture procedures on what is reported for yeast isolates.
 - Moses discussed Cryptococcus in CSF specimens. It is reportable to OCPHO and is they appear as round yeast on gram stain

2. Cell phones in the lab:
 - Laura S has seen some cell phone use in the lab
 - We should not be using our phone while in the lab. This is a biohazard risk and staff should be working not texting
 - Laura S has also seen this being done in the core lab but we will try to not do this in micro
 - If you have a smart watch, it is ok to look at texts on that but we shouldn't be making calls on it

3. PYR on sterile sites for Staphylococcus:
 - Last week we talked about calling *S.aureus* in blood cultures before TC is done but after Laura S realized we should not be doing that for risk of missing *S.lug*.
 - We will start doing PYR on sterile specimens after RS to ensure we do not misidentify them as *S.aureus*
 - Laura S has changed the RS and PYR keypads to reflect this change
 - Also need to do PYR on contaminants in blood culture before calling them CNST
 - *S.aureus* is TC+ and PYR-. *S.lug* is TC- and PYR+. It can also be RS+ or -

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4. VITEK ST AST card and new ASTM:
 - S.aureus looks same in new ASTM
 - For the new card, have to do Dtest for S.pneumo, Group C Strep and Group G Strep. The Dtest will be ordered but it is used to change the interpretation of the VITEK results if needed. Laura S reviewed the Dtest. Only relevant if erythromycin is resistant and clindamycin is sensitive. Laura S is going to change the Dtest KB order so it only includes Dtest to avoid confusion
 - Beta strep never need susceptibility testing done even if isolated with MRSA. It is always a comment. The keypad will add the comment
 - For S.pneumo and the VITEK card, there is benzylpenicillin-pneumonia results. Laura S isn't sure what this is and she cannot remove it. DL didn't seem to know what it was either. Benzylpenicillin non-meningitis is called benzylpenicillin-other. Also, for S.pneumo you do not need to add the comments for each result for benzylpenicillin like before

5. COVID on GX-16:
 - The instrument wouldn't read the cartridge barcode
 - Laura S disconnected the LIS interface cable and it worked
 - It must be because the LIS was built with the old test and now it has changed
 - LIS is very short staffed and they will not be able to fix it right now but shouldn't be an issue as not many are run

6. BioFire BCID kit:
 - We have received the new box of the BioFire blood culture ID kit
 - This isn't validated and we cant report from it but it can be used if really unsure of gram of blood culture
 - Try to use it sparingly as it is expensive and no decision should be made from it if it isn't matching the gram

7. Package inserts:
 - A copy of all package inserts is kept
 - Don't need to keep them in boxes of supplies in use. They take up room and are make it hard to remove the product sometimes

8. Fieldhouse:
 - The city of YK is offering free use of the track at the fieldhouse due to the smoke
 - This was brought up to supervisors as it was discussed yesterday at the MLT debriefing

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9. Roundtable:

- Solomon: talked about a S.lug he isolated. It looked like S.aureus but was RS-. He suspected S.lug and did GPI and GPS and he was correct. If an organism looks like S.aureus but is RS- you can do a GPI but we can't do GPI on all CNS. If S.lug is missed on non-sterile sites this is ok as it happens frequently and is not a huge concern