

Microbiology Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2024
12:15 to 13:00

Attendee	Present?	Attendee	Present?
Laura S	✓	Chelsea	✓
Moses	✓	Jen	✓
Solomon	✓	Katie	
Laura G	✓		
Minutes recorder: Laura S			

1. GX-MTB testing:

- Can add the sample reagent before working in the BSC. Just add the 2000 uL to the conical tubes. Can use the same bottle if doing it like this as it can't get contaminated with samples
- Always use only 1 mL of sample even if there is more. This way more sample reagent doesn't need to be added
- Don't keep sample containers after sample added to conical tube. Keep them in the biohazard garbage. If all the samples are negative, the bag can be discarded. If one is positive, the bag will need to be autoclaved
- If there is between 0.5 and 1 mL, still do the testing but add the specimen quality comment AFBFL. Don't pool with other send out samples. Add the comment to the label when in the BSC so it can be added after
- If there is <0.5 mL, cancel the specimen with the cancellation code |XIQ. Don't send it for culture as they will reject it to
- When trying to get sample into the conical tube, if it is thick or stuck to the sides add the sample reagent from the conical tube into the sample container and vortex the container. This will liquify the sample and then you can add that back into the conical tube. Don't want to dilute the sample with too much sample reagent. If need to add more sample reagent from the container, use a new one for each sample as this can become contaminated if we are using the same one for all samples
- Run batches up to 6 at a time but if don't have 6 they can still be run
- The front bench person will be ordering the samples and if there are lots in the morning, we will try to get a batch done
- I would like the evening respiratory bench person to mainly work on PCR samples and reading grams and the urine bench person to do the urine bench and then do specimen receiving duties
- We all need to work together and if you are not busy, help others. If you need help, make sure to ask. No everyone will know if you need help unless you ask. It is not a bad thing to need help. It is hard to predict how busy each person will be. Everyone is responsible for ensuring the duties of their bench get done but it doesn't mean they are the ones that have to do it. Others can help. This is important!!!
- Important to be careful when opening these sputum samples. There can be sputum on the lid. Take the lid off and put it on an Accel TB wipe

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2. Organism name not in VITEK:
 - If this happens let Laura S know
 - Give her the printout from the VITEK so she can add the organism
3. When we use commensal genital or respiratory flora in our work card:
 - it is good to put in brackets what this is
 - use short forms
 - Good for anyone following you so they know what was already growing
 - Jen asked if Candida species can be added as an organism. Laura S will do this
4. Yeast in sputum:
 - Usually, commensal flora but we need to rule out Cryptococcus
 - If the yeast has feet, it is Candida albicans and that rules out Cryptococcus. If it doesn't have feet, then we will need to do a YST-ID card
 - Laura S will change the SOP to reflect this but going forward, yeast with feet is always C.albicans so if we are just ruling out Cryptococcus, we can do that with the feet
5. Gram for sputum:
 - If using oropharyngeal flora for sputum samples, it is a good idea to put in TCOM what exactly you saw
 - Can just use short forms
 - It will help the person reading the plates know what was seen
6. CNA in sputum?
 - Is this something we think is necessary?
 - We can think about it if not sure at this time
 - Laura S has done this
7. TAT for fluid grams:
 - This is 1 hour
 - Laura S will begin measuring this
 - Laura S made a graph for June, and we have not been meeting this goal
 - Need to make sure if a fluid comes in, the gram is read within 1 hour during regular hours
 - We will all work together to make sure this time is met for these specimens
 - We will look at the graph for July in August and see if we have improved

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8. Pressure alarm:

- If this alarm goes off, we need to call Dexterra
 - They need to check the drains. If the pressure is off, it will pull the moisture out of the drains which will result in a bad smell and potentially mold on the walls due to the increased humidity
 - Remember to tell them to do this and they can use the sharps container in the floor in that room by the sink
 - Many issues with this were identified. An email went to Carolyn to ask:
 - i. Does Dexterra get a notification when the alarm goes off? If they do, are they supposed to come right away, or do we still need to put in a ticket?
 - ii. In the evening, we find that even if we put in a ticket no one comes right away, and it takes a while. We have been told this is because there is only 1 Dexterra person working, and they are usually busy with other things. It is almost impossible for the techs to work in the micro lab with the alarm ringing and even when you silence it, it only lasts for a few minutes and then needs to be done again. This is very disruptive to the department, and we need some suggestions on how to deal with this.
 - iii. Is there a way for Dexterra to automatically check the drains when the alarm goes off and add water if needed?
 - iv. Is there a solution to these drain issues? Adding water to the drains does not seem like a reasonable task for the micro techs to do. Can the drains be fixed, and this issue solved?
 - Laura S will let everyone know what she says about these questions
- ### 9. Roundtable:
- No one had anything

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