Microbiology Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2025
12:00 to 13:00

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

1. Weekly check-in:
   - Everything has been good and no issues

2. Safety concerns:
   - Laura did an Accreditation environmental assessment, and the only thing noticed was the sharps container used for blood culture bottles and VITEK cards was too full. This made Laura S realize that maybe we shouldn't even been using this since it is more expensive to discard sharps containers and the items going in there really aren't sharps. We will all think about this and discuss later. The garbage for the urine bench could be used but just need to make sure the weight isn't too much

3. EQA Surveys:
   - CMPT screening. MRSA/VRE/GBS and GAS
   - Run the GAS on BA and do GX if have the cartridges
   - For the VRE, if it looks like E. faecium VRE and you get E. durans treat it like VRE. For some reason, the VRE samples that are E. faecium VRE ID as E. durans for us. They are not sure why but thinking it has something to do with the sample they are making are for PCR testing and don't work well for culture
   - **Laura G asked about situations where we might get E. durans for an actual patient. We will not treat that as a VRE, it is only in CMPT specimens. The only Enterococcus that we report as VRE would be E. faecium and E. faecalis (but remember there are not any E. faecalis that are VRE at this point)**

4. Accreditation:
   - This has started now. The next Accreditation will be in 2027
   - Laura S is going to be the biomedical lab lead
   - We need to have evidence that we have talked about the standards so we will start doing this weekly
   - For April, we are going to review PPE standards. Laura S will read what the standard says, and we can discuss how we meet it

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5. Plates taken out at room temperature:
   - Some of these plates are out too long and they are drying out and changing color
   - Do not take out any KV plates, they were really not being used and drying out
   - Only take out 5 BRU plates for RT and 10 of everything else
   - Make sure to rotate plates and not keep old ones on the bottom

6. Catalase reagent:
   - One of the accreditation standards talks about reagents and keep track of lot numbers, etc.
   - The only one we didn't do this for was catalase
   - Laura S was asked to purchase this reagent so it can be treated like all others
   - **Laura S will put this into use soon. There 2 reagents are here so next week we will probably switch**

7. VITEK issue:
   - Coming on Monday to fix the dilutor
   - Will also do the PM
   - On Sunday, try to load cards early so they will be done on Monday and do not do any yeast cards since they take a while to run
   - **The Densichek hasn't been working well. There is a red light (which means the pod isn't synchronized to the base) and we are getting XXX instead of results. We will ask Biomerieux when they come to fix the dilutor**

8. HPV plated:
   - **Originally the other labs were going to plate the REHPV samples but then it was realized that they are not being "received" in the LIS at STH, and we can't really track what was here and what wasn't**
   - **Going forward, Laura S has asked Inuvik and FS to treat these samples like all other micro samples. The will order, collect and receive and then we will receive and plate them and then send them to Ottawa**
   - **Laura S has made a tracking sheet for FedEx samples. It is on the specimen fridge. Need to put the waybill sticker on, where it is going, when it was sent and then if it is received**

9. Amox ET for SPN BC:
   - Do we need to set this ET a lot?**-Some say yes, some no. But when the Pen is resistant, we need to repeat the ST03 card. We should set up the Amox ET then to make sure it is ready to go when the penicillin results are confirmed**
   - If so, we could automatically just do it to save time**-See above**
   - There was an issue last week where it had to be done so the only susceptibility result that could be released was vanco and pharmacy and the Dr were not happy about this
   - **Laura G said that when she uses the new Densichek she sometimes doesn't think it is accurate and uses the old one and the values are different. We shouldn't be using the old one since we cannot calibrate it. Laura S will discard it**

10. Mycoplasma and Bordetella validation:
    - The Mycoplasma passed but the Bordetella didn't
    - They are going to send more positive and negative Bordetella samples so we can repeat them since the volume of the samples was low. We will need to add some UTM to the vials to ensure there is 300 uL as they do not have enough to give us

11. GAS on GX:
    - Moses had asked why we are QC'ing this test since we are not using it. It is so we can stay familiar with it, and we have the cartridges and QC so we might as well do it so when we are given the go ahead, we will be ready to go
    - This is why we will do the CMPT on the GX as well

12. Order entry MR tests:
    - If you order an MR test (MRGEN, etc.) and there are extra lines to fill in with history, antibiotics, etc., you need to put in a – or / in those lines or the MLA can't task list them. Don't use a .

13. Breaks:
    - If people want another place for breaks other than the break room, the 2 conference rooms can be used. Meetings start at the hour so if it is after the hour and no one is in there, they are free
    - Laura S can even look at booking them for breaks if that will be good for everyone. Just let her know

14. Staffing:
    - Laura S doesn't know how early we will be able to hire Moses replacement
    - If there isn't time to train them before he leaves, we will either have to send samples out or Laura S will do the bench

- This will be up to Jen D, but we will not be able to do the work we are doing with only 4 techs and that will never be asked of anyone or be an option

15. Roundtable:
    - Laura G- The QC on the ANC card failed one day, was repeated and failed again and she asked should it be repeated a third time. No, it should be resubbed from the bead and repeated from that since it isn't working