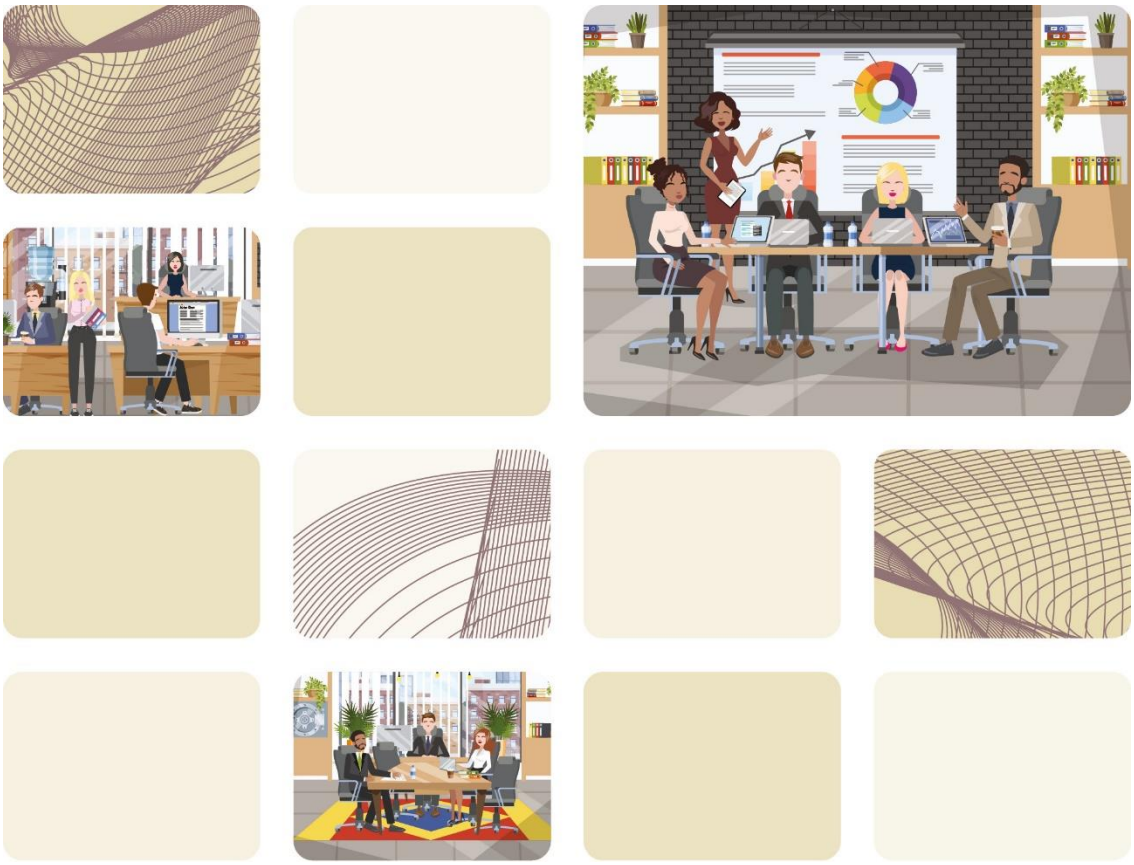
UK Health Security Agency

UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations

Review of users' comments received by Working group for microbiology standards in clinical bacteriology

ID 12 Identification of Haemophilus species and the HACEK group of organisms



This publication was created by UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) in partnership with the partner organisations.

Recommendations are listed as ACCEPT/ PARTIAL ACCEPT/DEFER/ NONE or PENDING

Issued by the Standards Unit, Specialised Microbiology and Laboratories, UKHSA

Consultation: 07/05/2024 – 24/05/2024
Version of document consulted on: ID 12dn+

4.1 Taxonomy and Characteristics

Comment number: 1

Date received: 07/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: UK Health Security Agency in collaboration with North Bristol NHS Trust

A typo - Cardiobacteriaea should be Cardiobacteriaceae

Recommended action

1. Accept: Typo has been corrected.

8.1.1 Bacterial growth medium

Comment number: 2

Date received: 15.05.2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Mast Group LTD

‘Haemophilus selective agar is commercially available and contains horse blood and antibiotics (kanamycin and vancomycin). If not already present, bacitracin can be added to media, or bacitracin discs applied to the surface of the inoculated agar to inhibit Neisseria species. Cultures should be incubated at 35-37°C with 5-10% CO2 for 24-48 hours (9).’

The inclusion of "or bacitracin discs applied to the surface of the inoculated agar" brings this in line with UK-SMI B5 Investigation of Nasal Samples (page 13).

Recommended action

1. Accept: This has been added to the document.

8.4.1 X and V factor Test

Comment number: 3

Date received: 25.05.2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Respiratory and Vaccine Preventable Bacteria Reference Unit, UKHSA

1. You recommend that X and V factor testing is done using chocolate agar. I think this is an error. You need a medium that doesn't support the growth of Haemophilus species unless supplemented using the X and V factor discs. However, chocolate agar supports good growth of all Haemophilus species. I think you should be recommending nutrient agar, Mueller Hinton agar or Brain Heart Infusion agar (We use nutrient agar.) PS: I notice you make the same statement in your SMI SOP for X and V factor testing.
2. In table 2: Just a suggestion for clarity: you may want to explain that "+" means that growth of this species requires this factor.

Recommended action

1. Accept: This has been noted for UK SMI TP 38 and will be looked at when the document is next reviewed
2. Accept: Added to the bottom of the table

9 Storage

Comment number: 4

Date received: 25.05.2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Respiratory and Vaccine Preventable Bacteria Reference Unit, UKHSA

You say that HACEK organisms should be stored a 35-37 degrees for short term storage. Did you mean to say room temperature? Certainly, in the case of Haemophilus influenzae, the optimal short term storage is a chocolate agar slant at room temperature.

Ref: Prajapati, K. , Rajdev, S. and Mullan, S. (2017) Different Preservation Methods for Long Term Maintenance of Haemophilus influenzae. Advances in Microbiology, 7, 343-348. doi: 10.4236/aim.2017.75028.

Recommended action

1. Accept: This has been corrected

References

Comment number: 5

Date received: 25.05.2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Respiratory and Vaccine Preventable Bacteria Reference Unit, UKHSA

Ref 43 has a typo in the name of the publication and refers to the wrong chapter:

It should be Manual of Clinical Microbiology.

Details for current chapter on Haemophilus are here:
https://www.clinmicronow.org/doi/10.1128/9781683670438.MCM.ch37

Recommended action

1. Accept

Financial barriers

Respondents were asked: 'Please state any potential organisational or financial barriers in applying the recommendations.'

Comment number: 6

Date received: 07/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: UK Health Security Agency in collaboration with North Bristol NHS Trust

None.

Comment number: 7

Date received: 15/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Mast Group LTD

None

Comment number: 8

Date received: 25/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Respiratory and Vaccine Preventable Bacteria Reference Unit, UKHSA

None

Health benefits

Respondents were asked: 'Please state any health benefits, side effects or risks that might affect the implementation of this UK SMI.'

Comment number: 9

Date received: 07/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: UK Health Security Agency in collaboration with North Bristol NHS Trust

None

Comment number: 10

Date received: 15/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Mast Group LTD

N/A - recommended use of bacitracin discs in other SMI documents

Comment number: 11

Date received: 25/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Respiratory and Vaccine Preventable Bacteria Reference Unit, UKHSA

None

Conflicts of Interest

Respondents were asked: ‘Please state any conflict of interest, if known'

Comment number: 12

Date received: 07/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: UK Health Security Agency in collaboration with North Bristol NHS Trust

None

Comment number: 13

Date received: 15/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Mast Group LTD

N/A

Comment number: 14

Date received: 25/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Respiratory and Vaccine Preventable Bacteria Reference Unit, UKHSA

None

Interested parties

Respondents were asked: ‘Please state any interested parties for the development of this document.’

Comment number: 15

Date received: 07/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: UK Health Security Agency in collaboration with North Bristol NHS Trust

None

Comment number: 16

Date received: 15/05/2024
Laboratory or organisation name: Mast Group LTD

N/A

Respondents indicating they were happy with the contents of the document

Overall number of comments: 1			
Date received	21/05/2024	**Professional body**	Institute of Biomedical Science
Health benefits			
N/A			