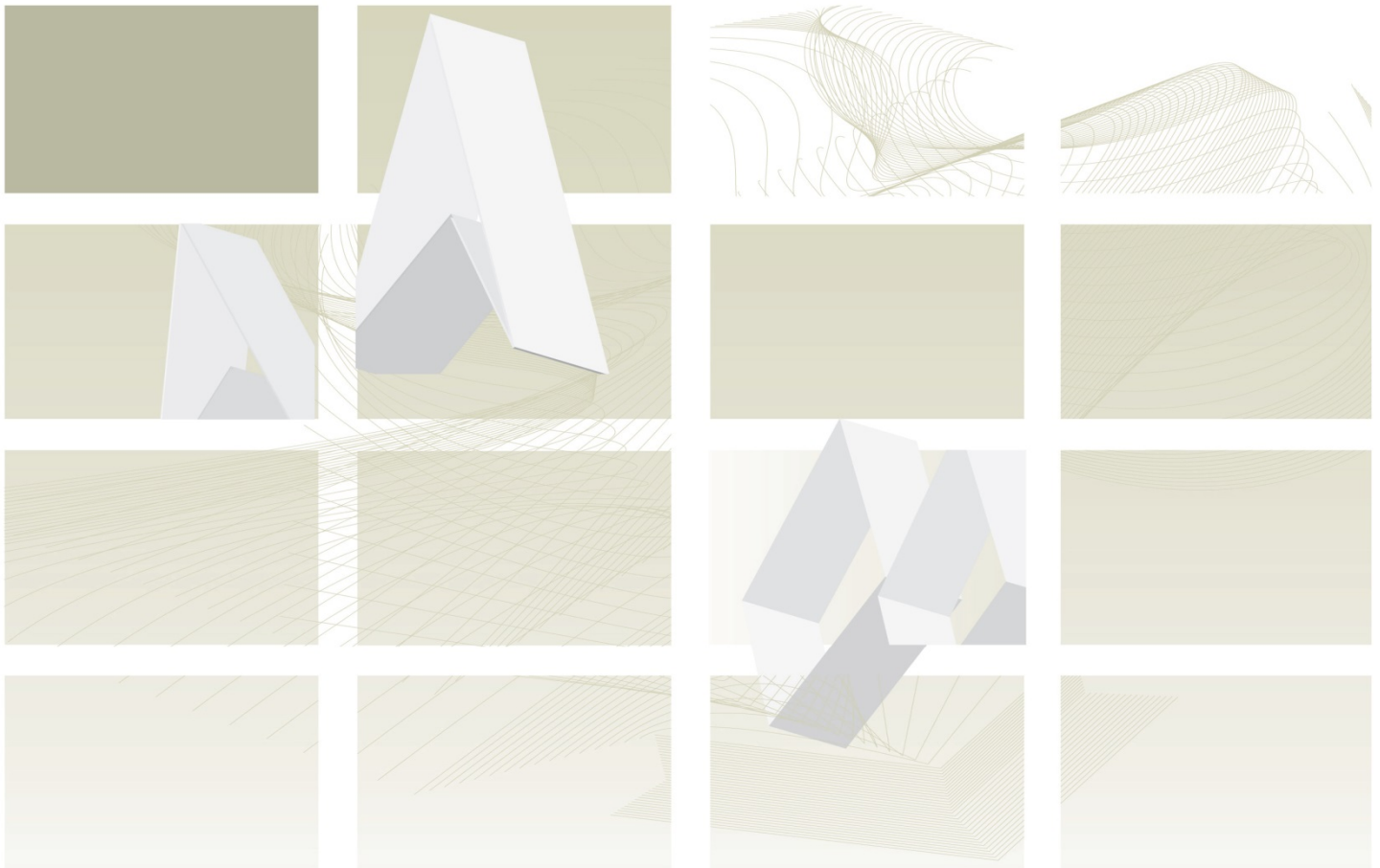




# UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations

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

## B 15 Investigation of bile



"NICE has renewed accreditation of the process used by **Public Health England (PHE)** to produce **UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations**. The renewed accreditation is valid until **30 June 2021** and applies to guidance produced using the processes described in **UK standards for microbiology investigations (UKSMIs) Development process, S9365', 2016**. The original accreditation term began in **July 2011**."

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

Consultation: 11/08/2017 – 25/08/2017

Version of document consulted on: B 6dc+

Proposal for changes

<b>Comment number</b>	1		
<b>Date received</b>	17/08/2017	<b>Lab name</b>	Keith Shuttleworth and Associates Ltd
<b>Section</b>	1 1:1-Specimen Collection Transport and Storage		
<b>This UK SMI B 15 describes the processing and bacteriological investigation of bile. Considering that the processing of bile samples is very similar to the processing of other sterile fluids, the Standards Unit is considering merging the UK SMI B 15 with the UK SMI B 26 on the investigation of fluids from normally sterile sites. Would you agree with this merging? Please comment.</b>			
I am not sure.			
<b>Recommended action</b>	<b>NONE</b>		
<b>General comment</b>			
I was only thinking that if there were some pictures/posters of the type of CE Marked leak proof containers at the last page of this document, it would make things really easy for staff, in terms of purchasing the appropriate containers, saving unnecessary waste of money buying the wrong thing. Poster could also be displayed at work places.			
<b>Evidence</b>			
I have evidenced the use of similar posters/ pictures displayed at work places for collection of sensitive specimens.			
<b>Financial barriers</b>			
No.			
<b>Health benefits</b>			
No.			
<b>Recommended action</b>	<b>NONE</b> Currently not part of the process.		

<b>Comment number</b>	2		
<b>Date received</b>	21/08/2017	<b>Lab name</b>	States of Jersey Pathology Laboratory
<b>Section</b>	Introduction (parasite list)		
<b>This UK SMI B 15 describes the processing and bacteriological investigation of</b>			

bile. Considering that the processing of bile samples is very similar to the processing of other sterile fluids, the Standards Unit is considering merging the UK SMI B 15 with the UK SMI B 26 on the investigation of fluids from normally sterile sites. Would you agree with this merging? Please comment.

Yes.

<b>Recommended action</b>	<b>ACCEPT</b>
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**General comment**

*Giardia lamblia* is listed. We have now altered our taxonomy used to *Giardia intestinalis*. Would you still use *G. lamblia* or change?

**Evidence**

SMI B 31 Investigation of samples other than blood for parasites. Introduction (under protozoa).

**Financial barriers**

No.

**Health benefits**

No.

<b>Recommended action</b>	<b>ACCEPT</b> <i>Giardia lamblia</i> changed to <i>Giardia intestinalis</i> based on NCBI taxonomy.
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<b>Comment number</b>	3		
<b>Date received</b>	24/08/2017	<b>Professional body</b>	Society for Applied Microbiology
<b>Section</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1.2 Specimen processing</li> <li>b. 4.5 Culture and investigation</li> </ul>		
<b>General comment</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The possibility of infection with verotoxin- or Shiga toxin-producing <i>E. coli</i> (such as O157) should be mentioned in this document, so far as to acknowledge that work on these organisms must be performed under Containment level 3 conditions (c.f. SMI ID 22).</li> <li>b. Chocolate agar may also be considered, in addition to blood agar. In addition to neomycin fastidious anaerobe agar, kanamycin blood agar (with added methadione and lysed blood) may also be considered. A metronidazole disc placed on a plate would speed confirmation of presence of anaerobes. Generally, it may be worthwhile considering the use of enrichment media (eg BHI or an anaerobic broth) in a situation where a very low number of microbes is expected. However, caution should be applied as the results of enrichment can be difficult to</li> </ul>			

interpret.	
<b>Recommended action</b>	<p>a. <b>NONE</b></p> <p>Shiga – verotoxin producing <i>E. coli</i> are enteric (intraintestinal pathogens) and would not be found in a sterile bile sample.</p> <p>b. <b>NONE</b></p> <p>This is not relevant for this document. If laboratories use other agar media not recommended in the UK SMI, they should ensure that they have validated and verified these. Blood agar will remain the recommended agar media in this document.</p>

<b>Comment number</b>	4		
<b>Date received</b>	25/08/2017	<b>Lab name</b>	Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust
<b>Section</b>	4.5.1 and Appendix		
<p><b>This UK SMI B 15 describes the processing and bacteriological investigation of bile. Considering that the processing of bile samples is very similar to the processing of other sterile fluids, the Standards Unit is considering merging the UK SMI B 15 with the UK SMI B 26 on the investigation of fluids from normally sterile sites. Would you agree with this merging? Please comment.</b></p>			
<p>Yes, merging the documents is a sensible idea. Typically sterile fluids are grouped and 'read' by one scientist. It will make the documentation simpler. Clearly the plates and incubation required would still need to be site specific.</p>			
<b>Recommended action</b>	<b>NONE</b>		
<b>General comment</b>			
<p>Slight confusion regarding when to read the anaerobic plates. Do you mean to say that the plates should be incubated for a minimum of five days, but it is possible to look at 48hrs?</p>			
<b>Evidence</b>			
<p>Please compare table in section 4.5.1 to the algorithm in Appendix.</p>			
<b>Financial barriers</b>			
<p>No.</p>			
<b>Health benefits</b>			
<p>No.</p>			
<b>Recommended action</b>	<p><b>ACCEPT</b></p> <p>In the particular situations in which the prevalence of slow-growing microorganisms and anaerobes is higher; plates should</p>		

	<p>be read at 5 days and then left in the incubator/cabinet until day 14.</p> <p>Changed the wording to make it easier to understand.</p>
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**Respondents indicating they were happy with the contents of the document**

<b>Overall number of comments: 2</b>			
<b>Date received</b>	16/08/2017	<b>Lab name</b>	Bacteriology - James Cook University Hospital
<b>Date received</b>	23/08/2017	<b>Lab name</b>	St. James's Hospital, Ireland