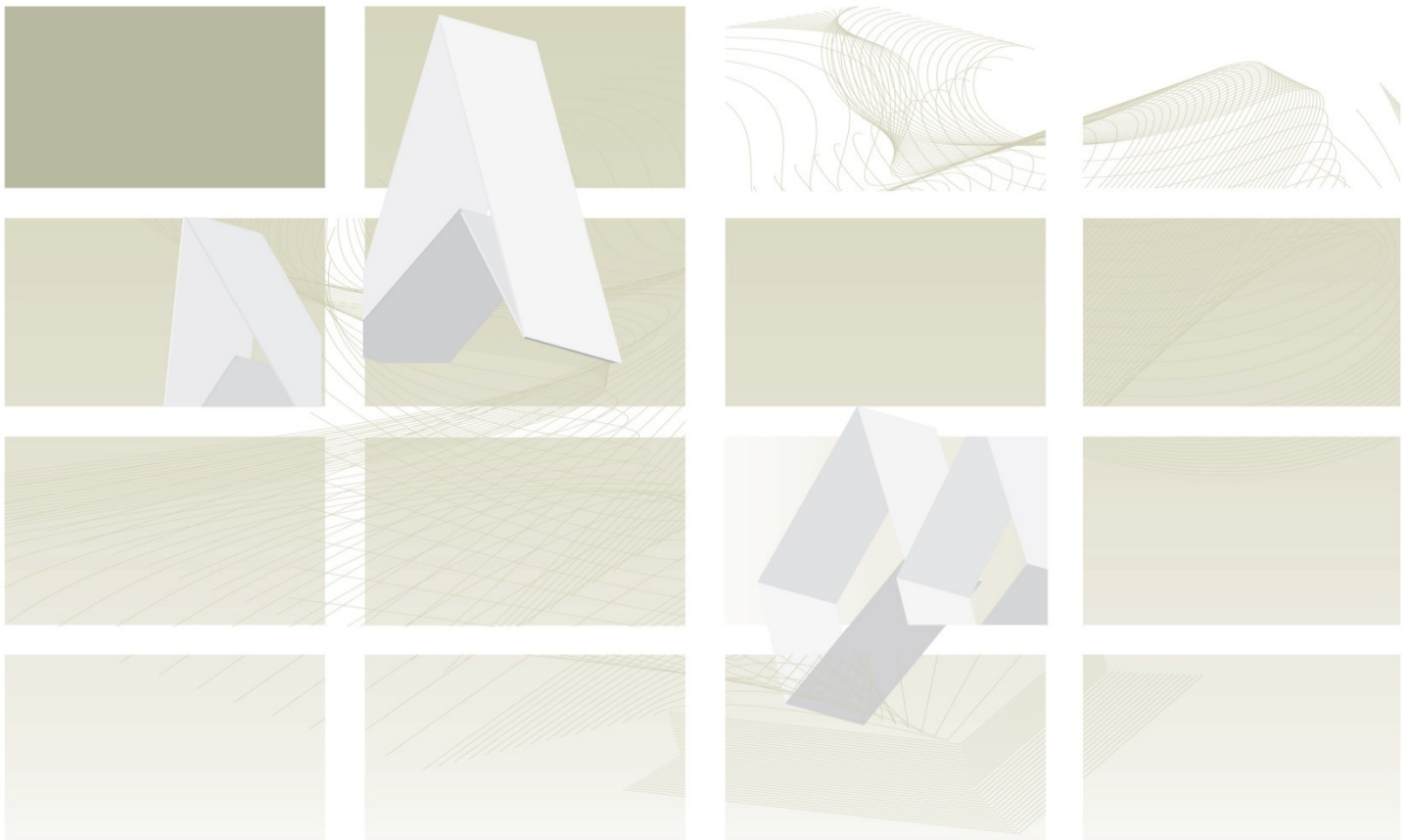




UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations

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

TP 1 Example reference strains for UK Standards for
Microbiology Investigations test procedures



"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

Issued by the Standards Unit, National Infection Service, PHE

RUC | TP 1 | Issue no: 3 | Issue date: 25.02.19

Page: 1 of 3

Consultation: 20/03/2018 – 04/04/2018

Version of document consulted on: TP 1dg+

Proposal for changes

Comment number	1		
Date received	22/03/2018	Lab name/Professional body	Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Laboratory
Section	Reference strains		
Comment			
<p>Thank you for the opportunity to review this document.</p> <p>a. I have one suggestion that you might want to consider. The purchase and maintenance of strains from national culture collections is essential “but also expensive and time consuming. A large proportion of UK laboratories now perform EUCAST disc susceptibility testing and (at a minimum) they should have the following strains available for quality control: <i>H. influenzae</i> (NCTC 12975) <i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i> (NCTC 12977) <i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> (NCTC 12697) <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> (NCTC 12973) <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> (NCTC 12903) <i>Escherichia coli</i> (NCTC 12241) It would be useful to UK laboratories (and others) if these strains could also be specified as acceptable options for phenotypic identification tests. For example, this would mean that laboratories didn't have to store two strains of <i>E. coli</i> “one for EUCAST susceptibility testing (NCTC 12241) and one as a positive control for an indole test (NCTC 10418).</p> <p>b. Furthermore, Kearns et al (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/16735421) have reasonably cautioned against the unnecessary use of the 'Oxford Staph' (NCTC 6571) due to PVL production. At least two independent published studies suggest that NCTC 12973 is negative for PVL. NCTC 6571 gives a very poor coagulase result and although this could be considered an advantage, it is not ideal for teaching and we do not specify weakly positive controls for other tests. Furthermore, most laboratories now use latex tests that detect additional surface antigens (or they use MALDI-TOF MS!).</p>			
Evidence			
http://www.eucast.org/fileadmin/src/media/PDFs/EUCAST_files/QC/v_8.0_EUCAST_QC_tables_routine_and_extended_QC.pdf			
Financial barriers			
The suggestion is mainly aimed to increase flexibility and save money.			
Health benefits			
The suggestion to avoid NCTC 6571 might limit laboratory risk.			
Recommended action	a. ACCEPT This has been discussed with the NCTC team and the Bacteriology Working Group members. This request has been accepted. The alternative strains mentioned above		

	<p>have been tested and validated and will now be noted in the appropriate test procedures.</p> <p>b. ACCEPT</p> <p>The technical information on NCTC 6571 has been added in the UK SMI TP 10: Coagulase Test document.</p>
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Respondents indicating they were happy with the contents of the document

Overall number of comments: 2			
Date received	29/03/2018	Lab name/Professional body	Professional body
Health benefits			
<i>Not completed.</i>			
Date received	04/04/2018	Lab name/Professional body	SfAM
Health benefits			
<i>Not completed.</i>			