



# The Current Landscape of Antimicrobial Resistance Testing in the United States

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# Conflicts of Interest:

- None

## Objectives:

- Be able to discuss the current processes in use for standard antimicrobial susceptibility testing.
- Various methods for antimicrobial resistance testing as well as recommendations for confirmation in the context of case studies.
- Current and future options for rapid antimicrobial susceptibility testing and how these processes could improve the time to a result.

## Outline:

- Key concepts for a reliable antibiotic susceptibility testing result.
- AST process for isolated colonies.
- Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) cases.
- Brief overview of direct from specimen/rapid processes currently available or in development.

## Objective of Antibiotic Susceptibility Testing (AST):

- To detect acquired antibiotic resistance of a particular isolate when compared to the wild-type isolate susceptibility profile.
- Intrinsic resistance is a natural resistance that is present in the wild-type isolate.
  - The antibiotic will not be clinically effective even if it appears susceptible *in vitro*.

# Identification is essential to AST interpretation

If the organism has not be identified, then the ability to interpret biochemical mechanisms of resistance as well as intrinsic resistance becomes impossible. (Antibiogram. Cuorvalin, et al. ISBN: 978-1-555-81496-0,2010 ASM Press)

# CLSI M35-A2: Abbreviated Identification of Bacteria & Yeast:

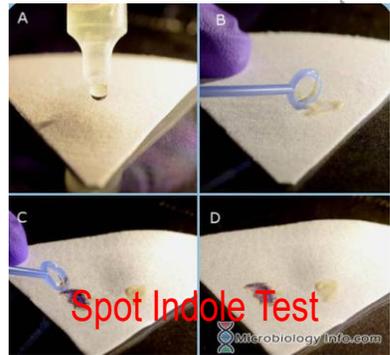
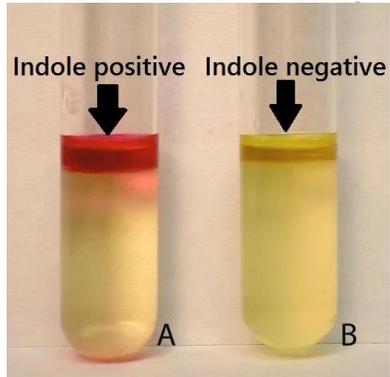
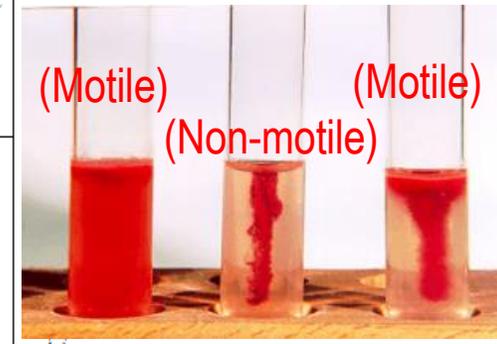
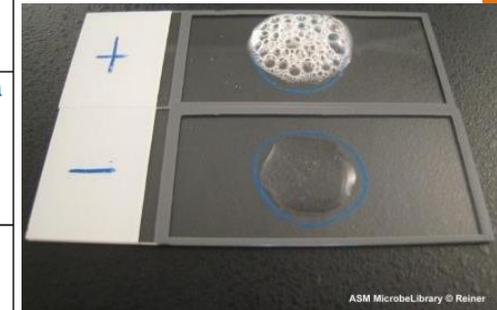
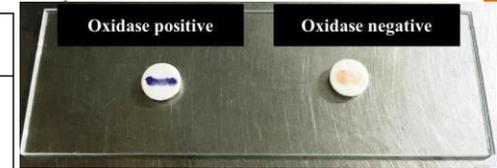


Table 1. Common Pathogens and Rapid Methods to Identify Gram-Negative Organisms When Suspected From Colony Morphology

Organism	Presumptive Identification	Additional Tests for Definitive Identification	Additional Notations
<i>Brucella</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tiny gram-negative coccobacilli</li> <li>2. Oxidase positive</li> <li>3. Catalase positive</li> <li>4. MacConkey negative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Urea positive</li> <li>2. Indole negative</li> <li>3. Nonhemolytic on BAP</li> </ol>	Work in safety cabinet; highly infectious PDA negative Found in sterile tissues and fluids Forward to LRN reference laboratory.
<i>Campylobacter jejuni/coli</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Gram-negative rod with gull wings</li> <li>2. Oxidase positive</li> <li>3. Catalase positive</li> <li>4. Darting motility</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hippurate positive (<i>C. jejuni</i>); or</li> <li>2. Indoxyl acetate positive (<i>C. jejuni/coli</i>)</li> </ol>	Must be isolated from stool growing at 42 °C on <i>Campylobacter</i> selective medium.
<i>Cardiobacterium hominis</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pleomorphic thin gram-negative rod</li> <li>2. Oxidase positive</li> <li>3. Catalase negative</li> <li>4. MacConkey negative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Indole positive</li> <li>2. Nonhemolytic</li> </ol>	Isolate must be from blood culture. Confirm with negative nitrate test.
<i>Eikenella corrodens</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Small gram-negative rods</li> <li>2. Grows as colonies that pit agar on BAP or chocolate in CO<sub>2</sub></li> <li>3. Oxidase positive</li> <li>4. Catalase negative</li> <li>5. MacConkey negative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Indole negative</li> <li>2. Nonhemolytic</li> <li>3. Distinct odor of bleach</li> </ol>	Ornithine positive if atypical colonies.
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Oxidase negative</li> <li>2. Indole positive</li> <li>3. Gram-negative rods by stain or growing on gram-negative selective agar</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hemolytic; or</li> <li>2. Lactose positive and PYR negative; or</li> <li>3. MUG positive</li> </ol>	Isolate must be growing as large colonies and not from gastrointestinal site specimen.
<i>Francisella tularensis</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tiny gram-negative rod or coccobacilli</li> <li>2. Oxidase negative</li> <li>3. Catalase negative or weak</li> <li>4. Slow growth on chocolate, but no growth on BAP even around <i>Staphylococcus</i> streak</li> </ol>	Beta-lactamase positive	Work in safety cabinet; highly infectious Forward to LRN reference laboratory.



# MIC.21940: Standardized Inoculum.

- The inoculum used for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (i.e., inoculum size) is controlled using a turbidity standard or other acceptable method.
  - NOTE: Antibiotic susceptibility may be substantially affected by inoculum size.
- 0.5 McFarland Standard =  $1.5 \times 10^8$  CFU/mL



# Standardized Inoculum & Isolate Age

- 0.5 McFarland = utilized directly for setup of disk diffusion and ETEST/MTS strips.
- A dilution of the 0.5 McFarland to equal roughly  $0.5 \times 10^5$  CFU/mL is utilized for macrobroth or microbroth dilutions.
- Troubleshooting opportunity: inoculum effect.
- Isolate age is recommended to be 18 to 24 hours. Comparability studies would be required to reduce this time.
- If utilizing a commercial system, follow manufacturer's instructions for inoculum density and age of the isolate.

# Colony Selection:



- CFU (Colony-Forming Unit): A colony represents one live bacterial cell that has multiplied until visible.
- Select well isolated colonies.
- MIC.21820: Susceptibility Testing – Pure Cultures
  - Antimicrobial susceptibility testing of isolates must be performed using pure isolates or colonies (i.e., susceptibility testing is not performed on mixed cultures).
  - NOTE: A purity check must be performed by subculturing an aliquot of the inoculum onto a blood agar plate or other non-selective media at the same time the inoculum is used for susceptibility testing with some exceptions.

## Purity Plate:

- MAC: 2 different types of GNR



- BAP: 2 different types of GNR

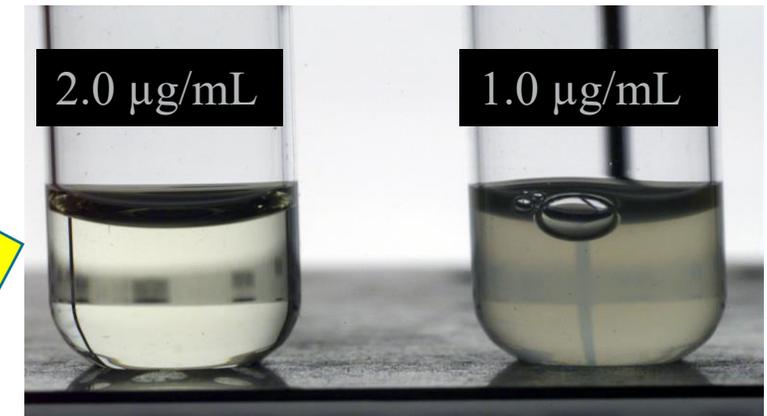
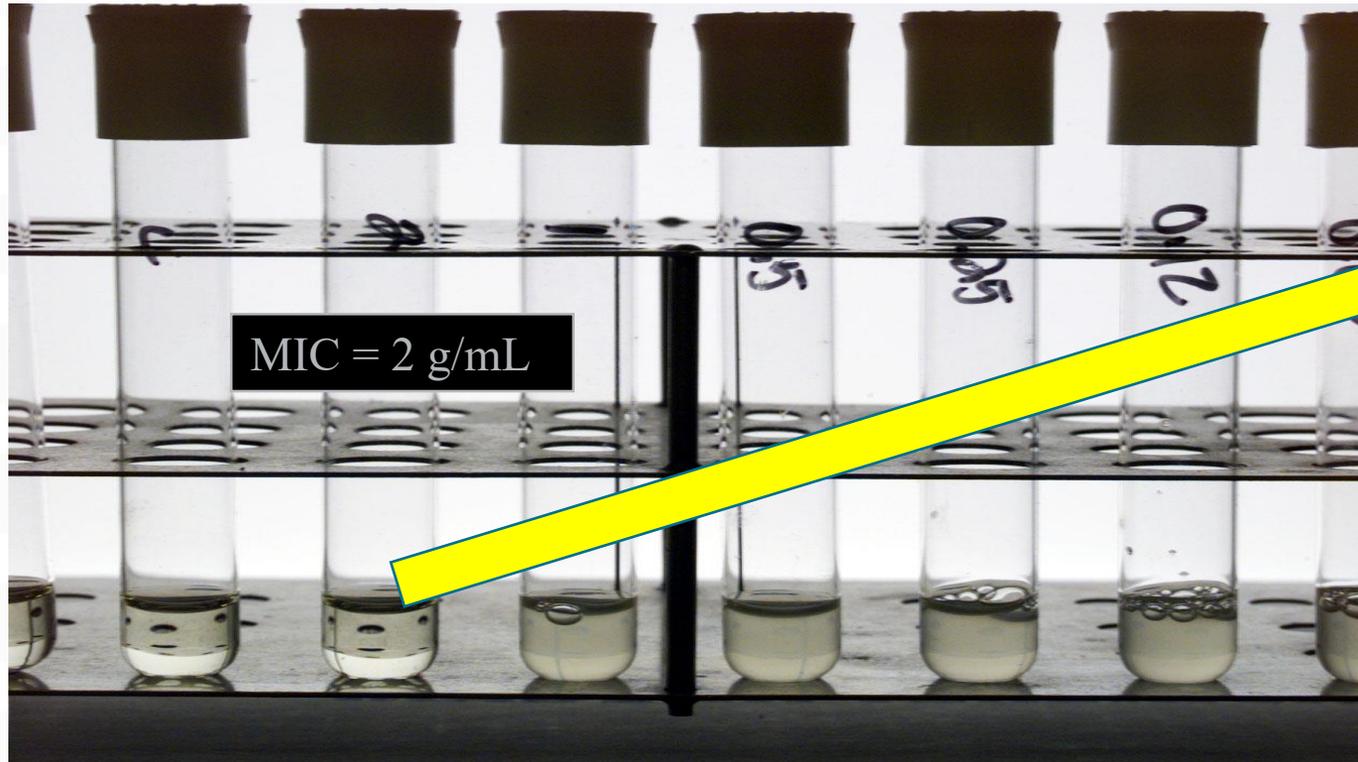


# Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Processes

- AST for isolated colonies:
  - Macrobrot h dilution
  - Microbrot h dilution
  - Agar dilution
  - Disk diffusion (KB disk)
  - Gradient diffusion (E TEST/MTS): Epsilon meter test
  - Automated/semi-automated

# Minimum Inhibitory Concentration (MIC):

- Lowest Concentration of Antimicrobial that **Visibly Inhibits Growth**.
  - Example: Visible growth at 1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ ; no visible growth at 2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ . MIC = 2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ .



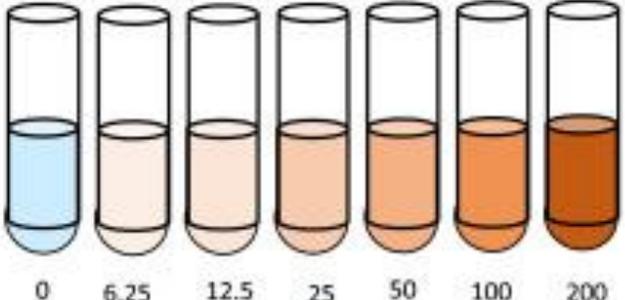
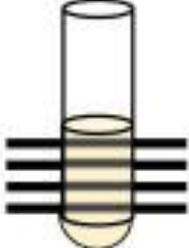
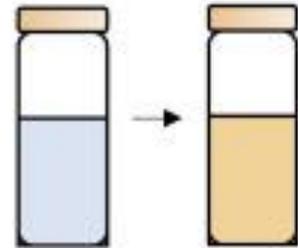
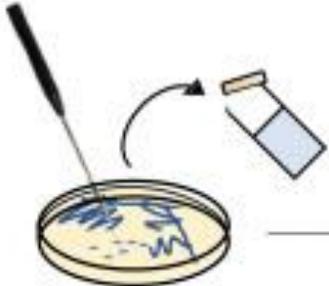
# Microbroth Dilution: Reference Standard

1) Single colony inoculum from plated bacterium

2) Culture to exponential growth phase (37 °C ~16-18 h)

3) Adjust to a MacFarland 0.5 standard

4) Preparation of stock dilution series of the antimicrobial agent

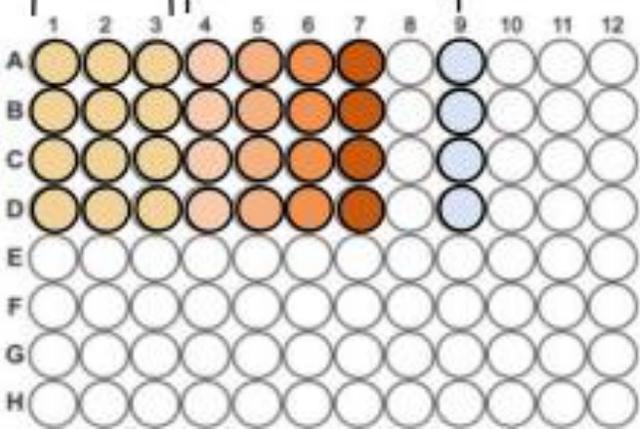
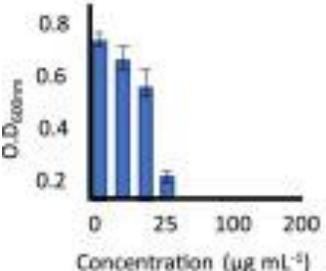


Concentration (µg mL<sup>-1</sup>)

Serial dilution of the antimicrobial agent can be performed either on a macro or microdilution scale

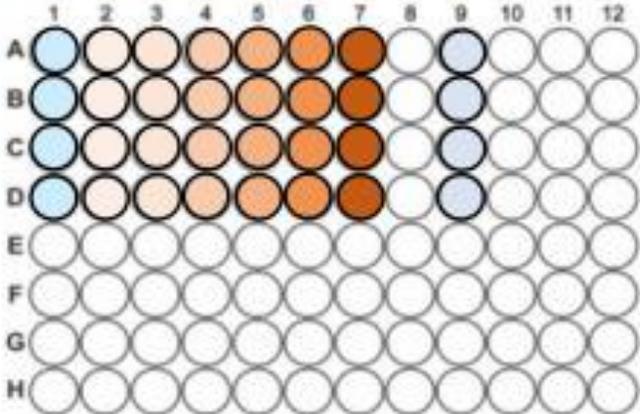
Turbidity observed visually at 0 – 12.5 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> of antimicrobial agent  
Visually determined MIC at 25 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>  
Negative control (no bacteria)

6) Optical density (600 nm) reading



5) 10-fold diluted inoculum of 0.5 MacFarland bacteria

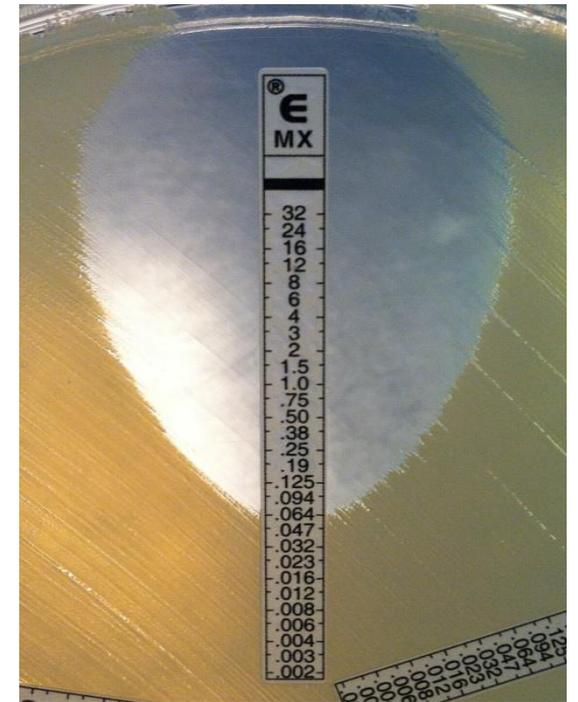
37 °C  
24 h



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/engineering/dilution-method>

# Gradient Strip: commercial ETEST/MTS

- Strip impregnated with a pre-defined concentration gradient of an antimicrobial agent, which is used to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC).
- 0.5 McFarland utilized. Expect a confluent or almost confluent lawn of growth.
- Reading: observe where the relevant inhibition ellipse intersects the strip and read the MIC at complete inhibition. Follow manufacturer's instructions in regards to reading specific antibiotic strips and if  $\geq$  or  $<$ .
- Utilize susceptibility interpretative criteria as recommended by the FDA or standards development organization.



# Gradient Strip: MIC interpretation instructions required

**Etest**<sup>®</sup> For on-scale MIC determination

**ORGANISM EFFECTS**

**AEROBIC BACTERIA**

Ignore haemolysis (e.g. strip) Read growth; **0.032** µg/ml.

Ignore swarming (e.g. *Proteus spp.*) Read growth edge; **0.004** µg/ml.

*S. multiphila* - trim (scale) Ignore haze in ellipse; **0.19** µg/ml.

*Pneumococci* -  $\beta$ -lactams, read all growth; **4** µg/ml.

*Pneumococci* -  $\beta$ -lactams, read haze/inner colonies; **1.5** µg/ml.

**DRUG EFFECTS**

Bactericidal drugs - read hazes, microcolonies; **1.5** µg/ml.

Bactericidal drugs - read macro/microcolonies; **0.32** µg/ml.

Bacteriostatic drugs - read at 80% inhibition; **0.032** µg/ml.

Tigecycline - read at 80% inhibition; **0.032** µg/ml.

Linezolid - read at 90% inhibition; **1** µg/ml.

Intrinsic activity, clavulanate, Extrapolate curve; **3** µg/ml.

$\beta$ -lactams - paradoxical effect Read all growth; **>256** µg/ml.

Glycopeptides - slim ellipse Read end of dip; **1** µg/ml.

Polypeptides - slim ellipse Read bottom of dip; **0.38** µg/ml.

Polypeptides - read colonies in the dip; **3** µg/ml.

**RESISTANCE EFFECTS**

GISA/HGISA - vancomycin Read all growth; **8** µg/ml.

GISA - oxacillin Read all colonies; **64** µg/ml.

KPC - carbapenems Read all colonies; **8** µg/ml.

$\beta$ -lactamase induction by clavulanate; **>256** µg/ml.

Small colony variants - bactericidal drugs; **32** µg/ml.

**TECHNICAL AND HANDLING**

Between markings - read upper value; **0.19** µg/ml.

Strip placed upside down Invalid, repeat the test.

Uneven - read upper value; if >1 dilution, repeat the test.

Ignore line of growth alongside strip; **0.25** µg/ml.

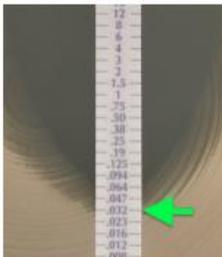
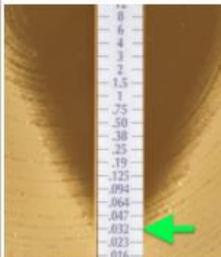
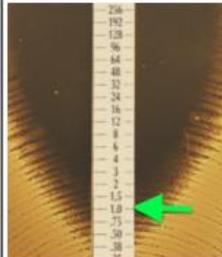
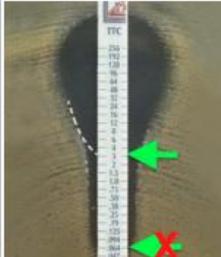
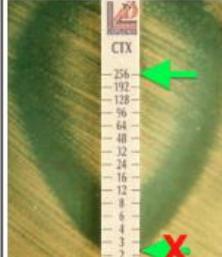
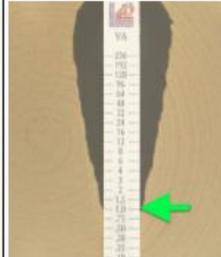
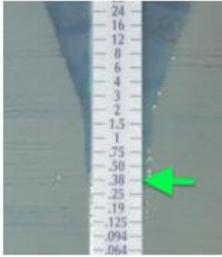
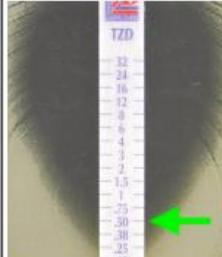
Distorted ellipse - wet surface, invalid, repeat the test.

**Reading Guide**

Liofilchem<sup>®</sup> MIC Test Strip Reading Guide © Liofilchem<sup>®</sup> 2015

## Aerobic bacteria

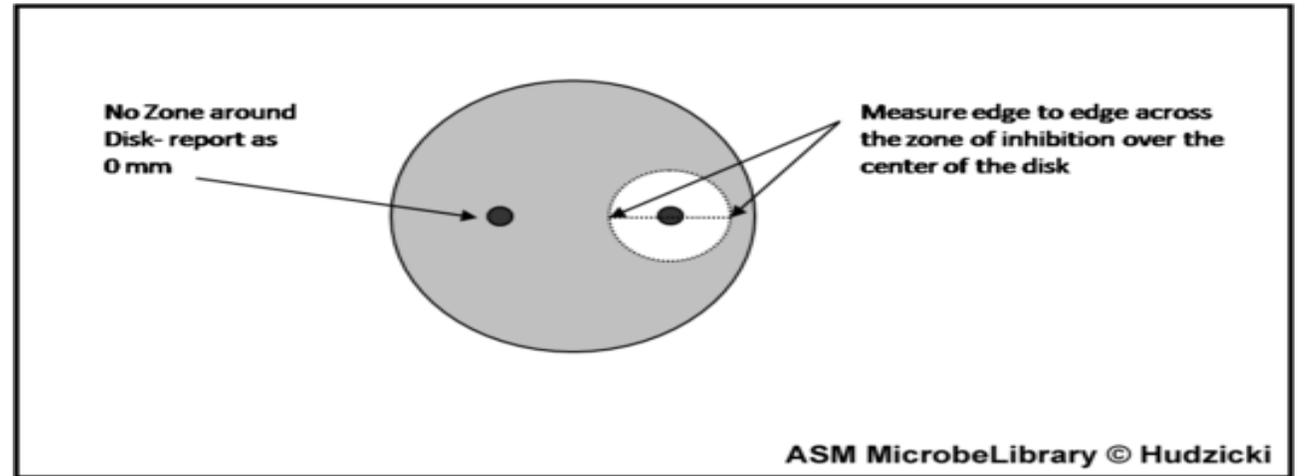
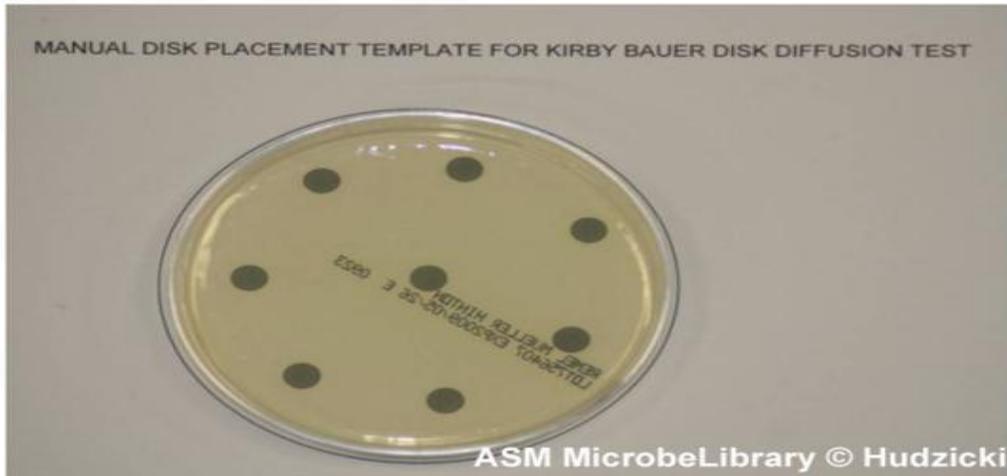
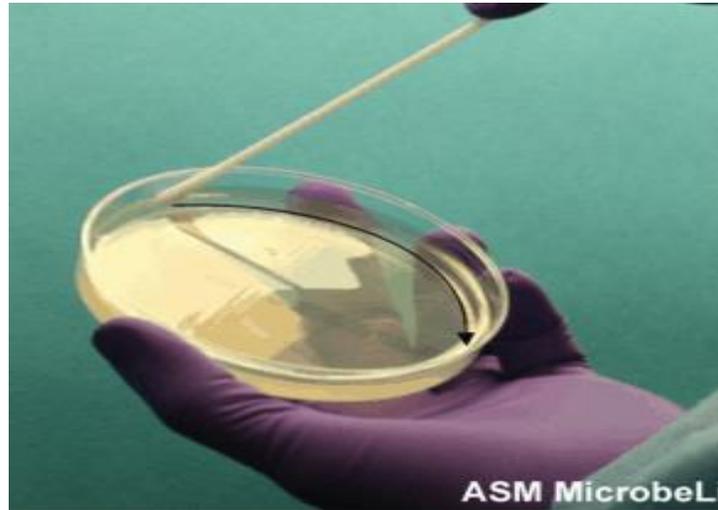
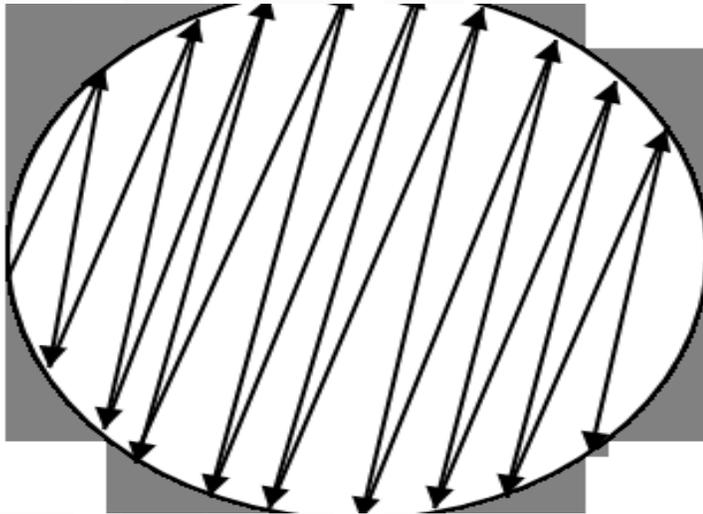
**Drug effect**

			
Bacteriostatic drug: read at 80% inhibition	Tigecycline: read at 80% inhibition.	Linezolid: read at 90% inhibition.	Bactericidal drug: read hazes and microcolonies.
			
Bactericidal drug: read micro and macro colonies.	Intrinsic activity of clavulanate, extrapolate curve.	Paradox effect of Beta-lactams, read all growth.	Slim ellipse of glycopeptides, read end of dip.
			
Slim ellipse of polypeptides, read bottom of dip.	Polypeptides, read colonies in the dip.	Tedizolid: read at 90% inhibition.	

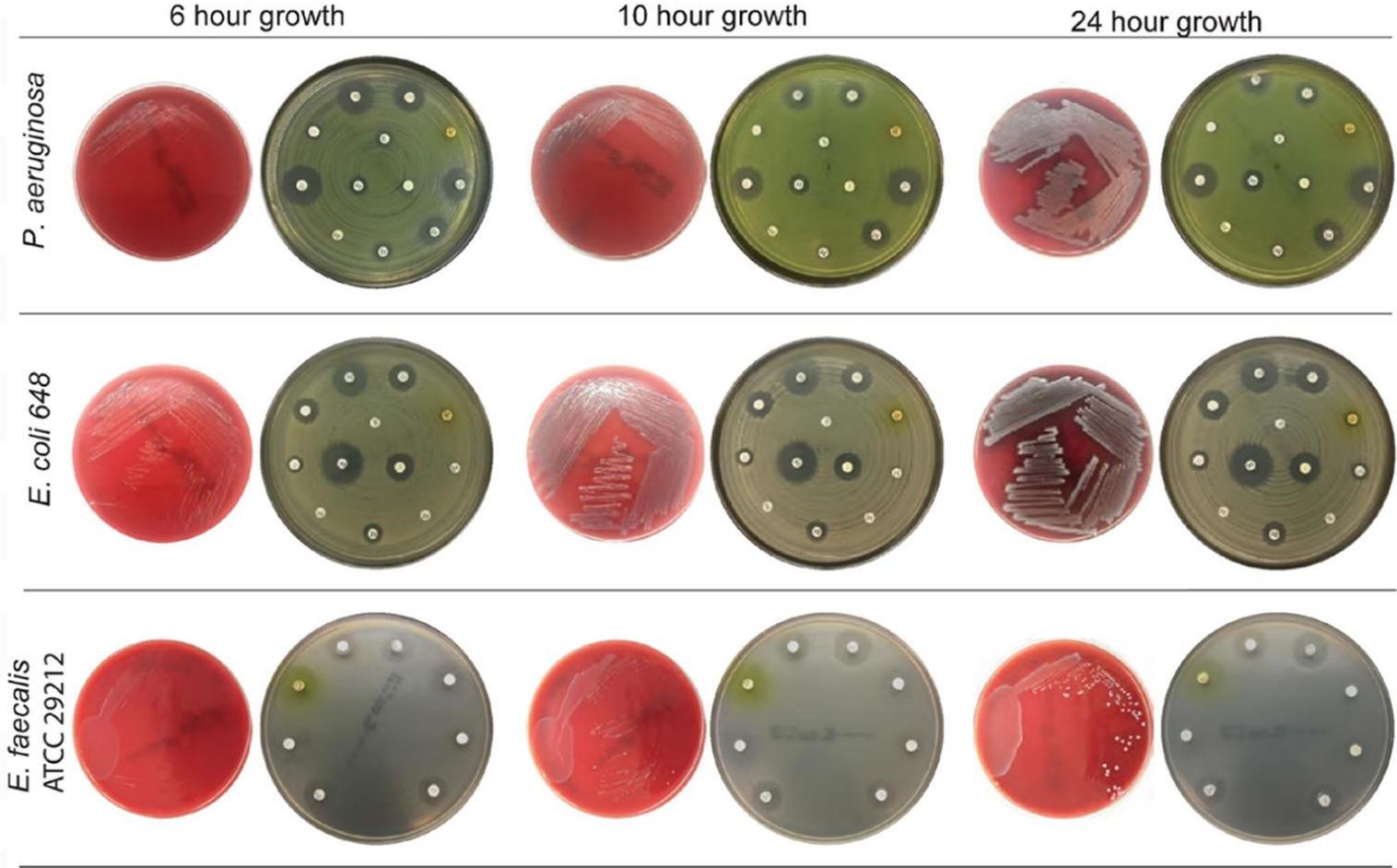
## Disk Diffusion (Kirby-Bauer disk)

- Qualitative Method: RR, SS, I, SDD, NS
- Interpretation only option. If an interpretation is not established by FDA and/or standards development organization then this method is not valid.
- Excellent method for cost efficiency and for phenotypically noting new types of resistance patterns.
- Added benefit for laboratories with Total Laboratory Automation for measuring the DD as well as some modules being able to perform setup.

# Disk Diffusion:



# Disk Diffusion Performed on Early Growth



 Blood agar plate (6h, 10h, or 24h)  
 Disk diffusion plate setup from early (6h or 10h) or standard (24h) growth

<https://journals.asm.org/doi/epub/10.1128/jcm.03007-20>



# Commercially Available Automated AST Platform

These are designed for testing pure isolates.

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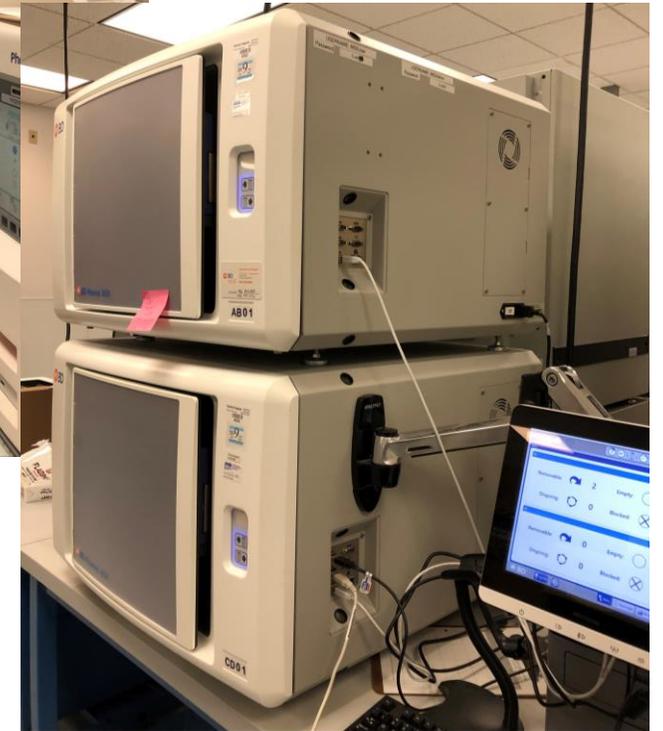
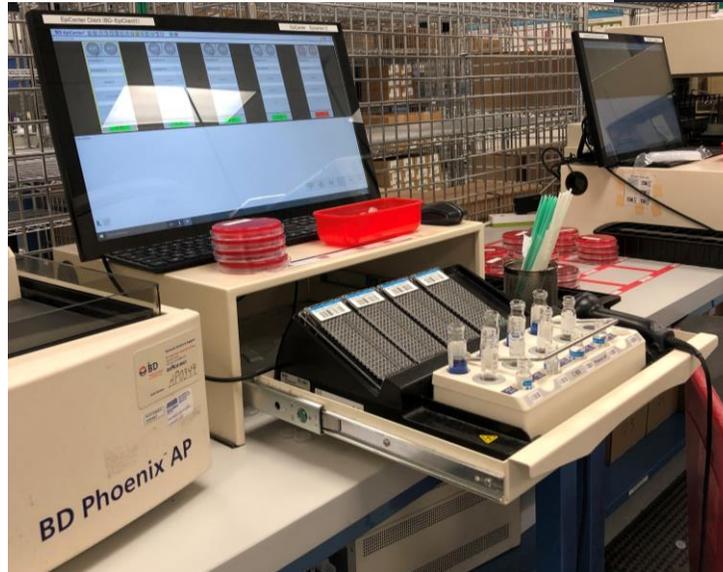
# Microscan (Beckman Coulter)



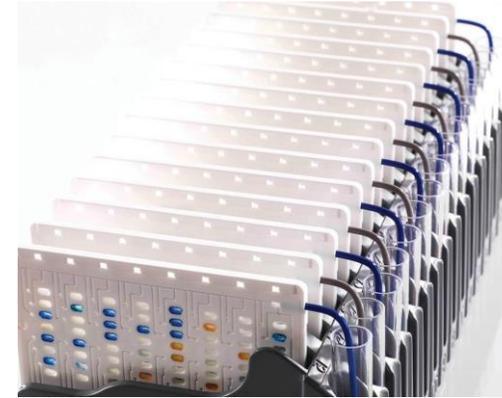
# Sensititre (Thermo Scientific)



# Phoenix AST (BD)



# Vitek 2 (Biomerieux)



## ID/AST Combo Panel versus AST only panels

- End users should be aware of which antibiotics and concentration ranges are present on the panel and collaborate with antimicrobial stewardship for panel selection.
- ID/AST Combo panels will typically have less antibiotics and less concentrations of each.
- End users should be aware of antibiotic concentrations present per panel in order to appropriately assess for breakpoint changes.
- Panels will have exceptions for certain antibiotics and organisms, which will require an alternative testing method.



# Clinical Cases: AMR

Using Kahoot!®

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# CASE 1: part A

- 86 yr old male. Urine Culture.
- Growth: 10,000 CFU/mL of *Citrobacter freundii* complex
- AST Results via Phoenix NMIC-306 Panel: CPO well positive

Antibiotic	Interpretation	Antibiotic	Interpretation
Amoxicillin/ Clavulanate	Resistant	Ertapenem	<u>Intermediate</u>
Ampicillin	Resistant	Gentamicin	Resistant
Ampicillin/ Sulbactam	Resistant	Levofloxacin	Resistant
Cefazolin	Resistant	Meropenem	<u>Susceptible</u>
Cefepime	Susceptible dose dependent	Nitrofurantoin	Susceptible
Ceftazidime	Resistant	Tetracycline	Susceptible
Ceftriaxone	Resistant	Tobramycin	Intermediate
Ciprofloxacin	Resistant	Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole	Susceptible

# If you obtained either an intermediate or resistant ertapenem value, what would you do next?

- A. Release AST reporting as Carbapenemase-producing organism.
- B. Repeat initial AST panel to confirm result.
- C. Perform alternative AST method for ertapenem and/or meropenem, i.e. by MIC strip (E-TEST or MTS) or KB disk.
- D. Perform mCIM
- E. Perform CarbaNP
- F. Perform Carba-R or similar molecular method

## AST confirmation:

### *Citrobacter freundii* complex

- Performed Ertapenem ETEST (0.38 µg/mL) SS.
- Carba-R (CREPCR) detected: KPC.
- Reported: This organism is a PCR confirmed carbapenemase producer (KPC).

**CT DPH confirmed:** “This *Citrobacter freundii* complex is potentially harboring a carbapenemase with low activity. Infectious Diseases and/or Infection Control consult is highly recommended.”

### *Escherichia coli* ESBL

- Repeated Phoenix NMIC-306 Panel
- CPO well repeated positive.
- Ertapenem repeated resistant (2 µg/mL)
- Carba-R (CREPCR) detected: OXA-48.
- Reported: *E. coli* ESBL producer. This organism is a PCR confirmed carbapenemase producers (OXA-48).

**CT DPH confirmed:** “This *Escherichia coli* is potentially harboring a carbapenemase with low activity. Infectious Diseases and/or Infection Control consult is highly recommended.”

## Awareness:

- Potential for the molecular detection of a known resistance gene to not match a phenotypic interpretation.
- Molecular tests are often more sensitive than phenotypic tests.
- Some examples that can be added to direct from specimen reports of molecular detection methods for provider awareness:
  - An ESBL gene has been detected by molecular assay; this may not correlate with cephalosporin susceptibility patterns. Please refer to detailed susceptibility results when available and suggest consultation with Infectious Diseases for management.
  - The KPC carbapenemase gene has been detected by molecular assay. Suggest consultation with Infectious Diseases for management.

# Carbapenemase

- Enterobacterales that test resistant to at least one of the carbapenem antibiotics (ertapenem, meropenem, doripenem, or imipenem) or produce a carbapenemase (an enzyme that can make them resistant to carbapenem antibiotics) are called CRE.
- Carbapenemase-producing CRE make enzymes called carbapenemases that inactivate carbapenems and other  $\beta$ -lactam antibiotics, including penicillins and cephalosporins.
- *Klebsiella pneumoniae* carbapenemase (KPC)
- New Delhi Metallo-beta-lactamase (NDM)
- Verona Integron-Encoded Metallo-beta-lactamase (VIM)
- Imipenemase (IMP)
- Oxacillinase-48 (OXA-48)

# Supplemental AMR Detection Assays: GNR

- Carbapenemase detection:
  - Phenotypic: CarbaNP; mCIM w/o eCIM; CPO well Phx; RAPIDEC CARBA NP
  - Molecular: Carba-R RT-PCR; RUO kits; syndromic panels; NGS

Supplemental Test	Organisms	Test Description	Optional for:	Table Locations
ESBL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>E. coli</i></li> <li>• <i>K. pneumoniae</i></li> <li>• <i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i></li> <li>• <i>Proteus mirabilis</i></li> </ul>	Broth microdilution or disk diffusion clavulanate inhibition test for ESBLs	Isolates demonstrating reduced susceptibility to cephalosporins  Results that indicate presence or absence of ESBLs	3A
CarbaNP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enterobacterales</li> <li>• <i>P. aeruginosa</i></li> </ul>	Colorimetric assay for detecting carbapenem hydrolysis	Isolates demonstrating reduced susceptibility to carbapenems  Results that indicate presence or absence of certain carbapenemases	3B, 3B-1
mCIM with or without eCIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mCIM only: Enterobacterales and <i>P. aeruginosa</i></li> <li>• mCIM with eCIM: Enterobacterales only</li> </ul>	Disk diffusion for detecting carbapenem hydrolysis (inactivation)  eCIM add-on enables differentiation of metallo-β-lactamases from serine carbapenemases in Enterobacterales isolates that are positive for mCIM	Isolates demonstrating reduced susceptibility to carbapenems  Results that indicate presence or absence of certain carbapenemases	3C

# Modified Carbapenem Inactivation Method: mCim



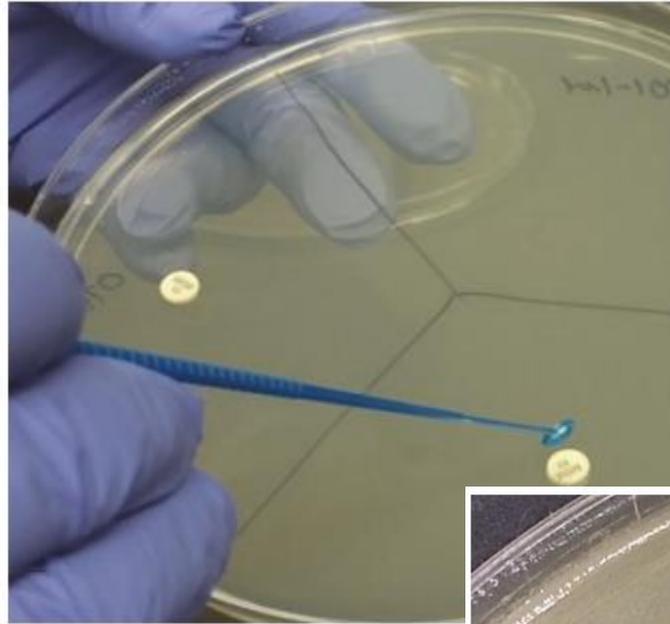
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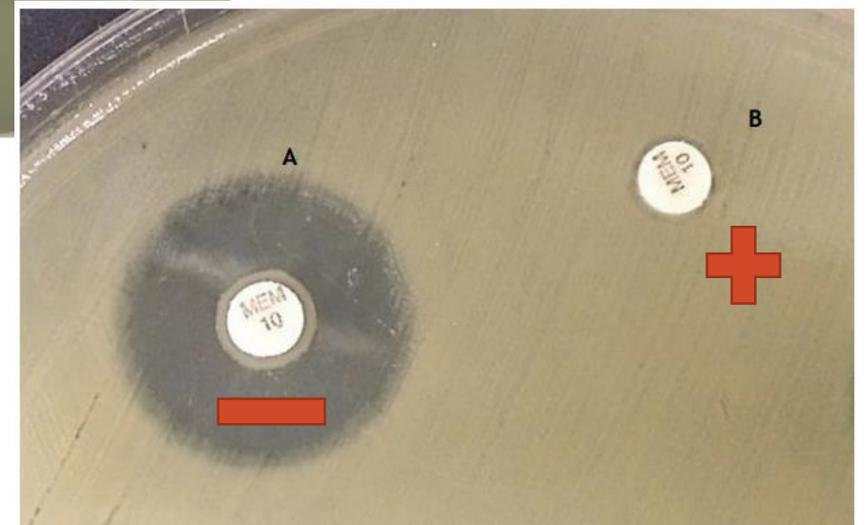
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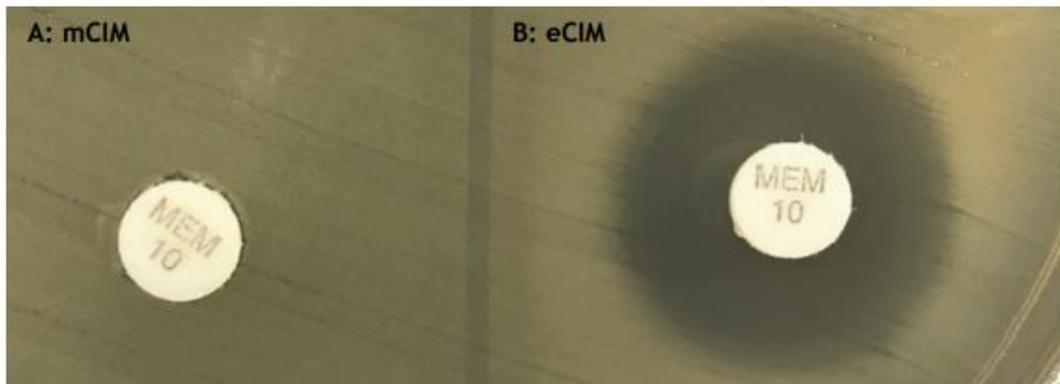
C



D

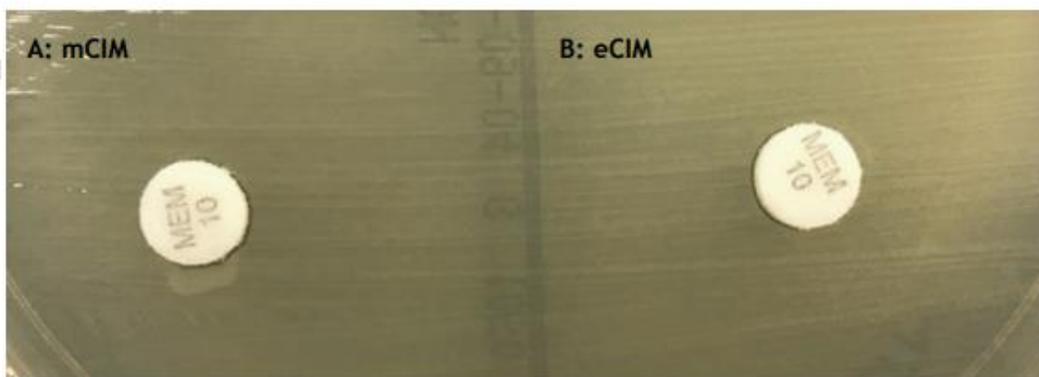


# eCIM: pair with mCIM to differentiate metallo-B-lactamases from serine carbapenemases.



**Figure 3C. mCIM and eCIM Test Interpretation: Positive mCIM and eCIM.** “A” shows an mCIM positive result (zone diameter = 6 mm) and “B” shows an eCIM positive result (zone diameter = 19 mm). A  $\geq 5$ -mm increase in zone diameter for eCIM vs diameter for mCIM zone (19 mm – 6 mm = 13 mm) demonstrates the inhibition of the metallo-B-lactamase in the presence of EDTA.

- Result: positive mCIM and eCIM
- Report: metallo-B-lactamase detected



**Figure 3D. mCIM and eCIM Test Interpretation: Positive mCIM and Negative eCIM.** “A” shows an mCIM positive result (zone diameter = 6 mm) and “B” shows an eCIM negative result (zone diameter = 6 mm). Serine carbapenemases are not inhibited by EDTA and demonstrate a  $\leq 4$ -mm increase in zone diameter for eCIM vs zone diameter for mCIM.

- Result: positive mCIM and negative eCIM
- Report: serine carbapenemase detected

# CarbaNP: may not detect OXA-48-like

- Utilize for isolates suspicious for carbapenemase production especially if new breakpoints are not implemented.

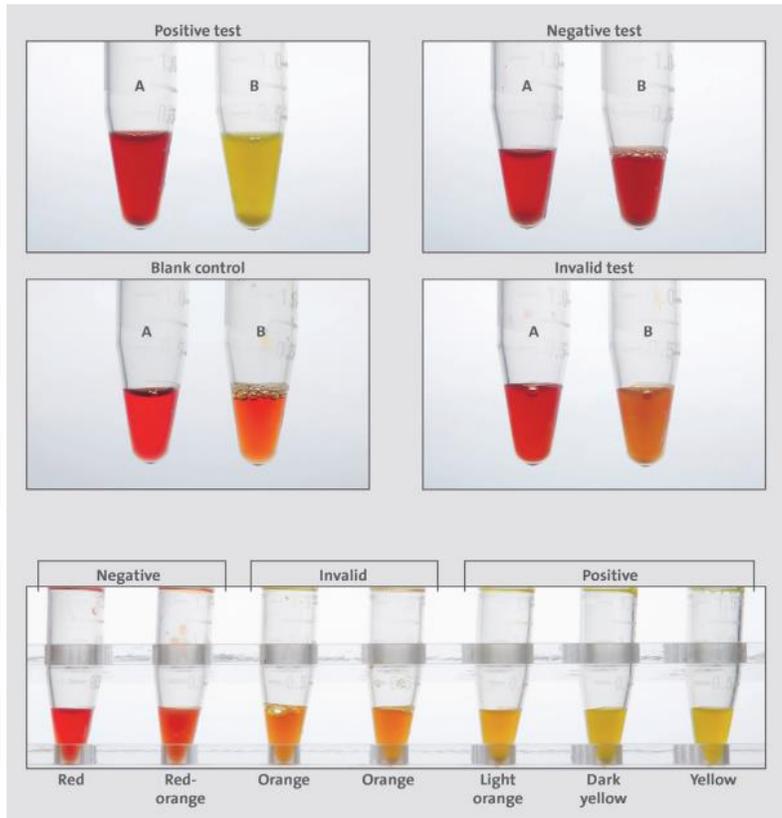


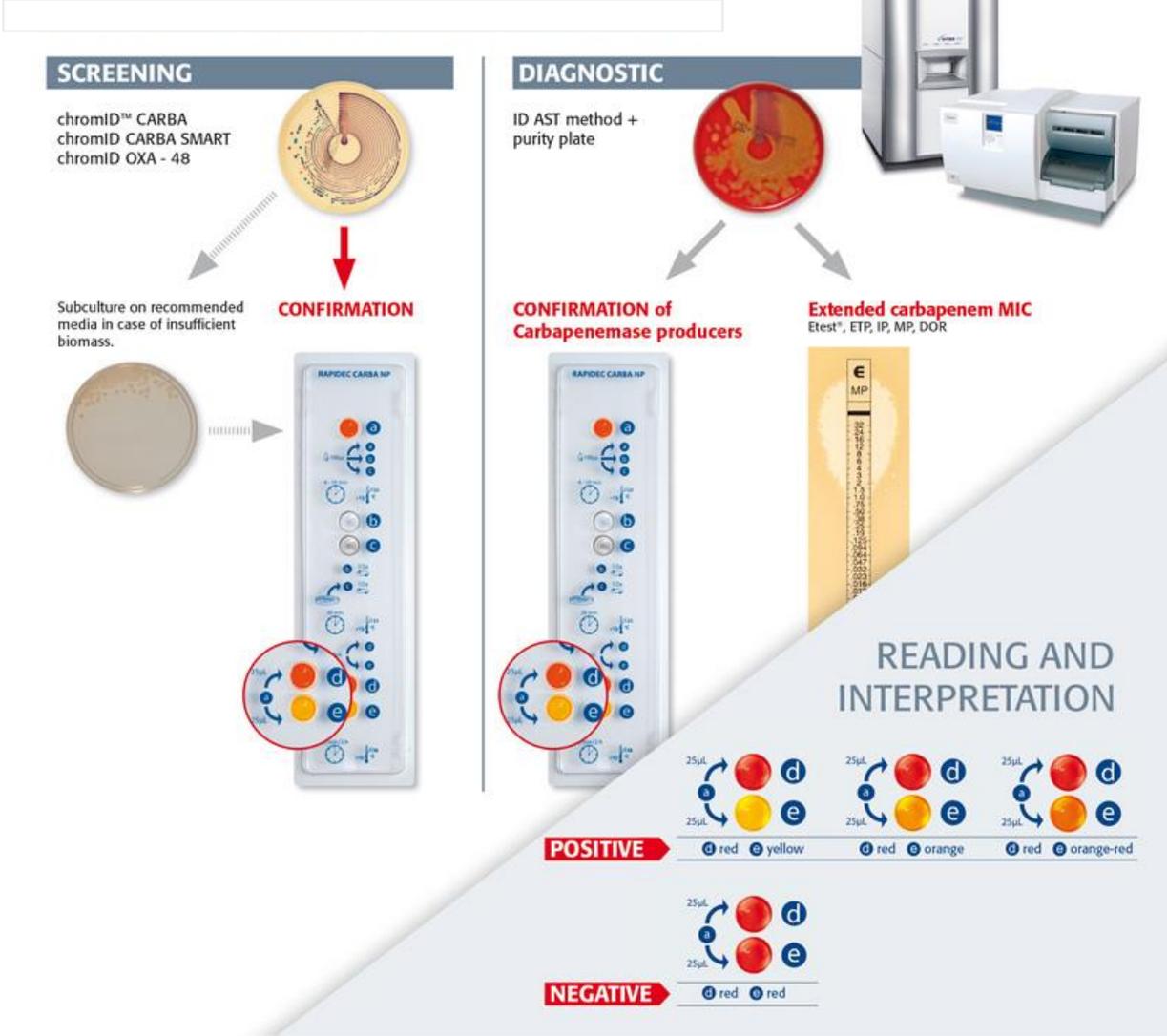
Figure 1. Interpretation of Color Reactions

Results for Patient and QC Tubes		
Tube "a": Solution A (serves as internal control)	Tube "b": Solution B	Interpretation
Red or red-orange	Red or red-orange	Negative, no carbapenemase detected
Red or red-orange	Light orange, dark yellow, or yellow	Positive, carbapenemase producer
Red or red-orange	Orange	Invalid
Orange, light orange, dark yellow, or yellow	Any color	Invalid

# RAPIDEC CARBA NP

1) Phenol red: pH indicator

2) A carbapenem: imipenem (carbapenemase substrate) + Zinc, required for the detection of metallodependent carbapenemase-producing strains



# Molecular Options:

## BD MAX™ Check-Points CPO assay is an integrated molecular screening solution

- Provides results for the five most common carbapenemase genes in Gram-negative bacteria
- Test can be processed from rectal swabs

**KPC**   **OXA-48\***   **NDM**   **VIM/IMP**

\* OXA-48 and OXA-48 like

- Results in <2.5 hours compared to culture which can take up to 48 hours
- Fully integrated on the **BD MAX™ System**, a fully automated molecular system capable of running BD and partner developed assays as well as laboratory-developed tests



Improved patient management

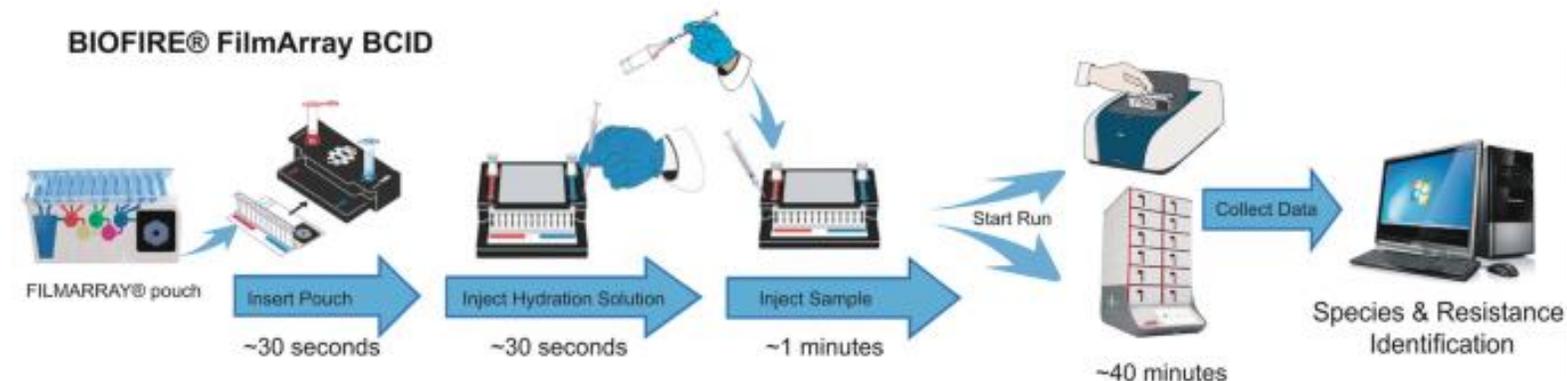


Workflow efficiency



Fast screening results

## (A) Real-time method



## Xpert® Carba-R



## (B) Microarray method

### Verigene® BC-GN



Niu, S., Chen, L. (2018). [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-95111-9\\_6](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-95111-9_6)

# RT-PCR options in research use only category.



- Sequencing
- For Research Use Only
- DNA

## AmpliSeq for Illumina Antimicrobial Resistance Research Panel

This sequencing research panel targets 478 antimicrobial resistance genes to help understand antibiotic treatment efficacy for 28 antibiotic classes.

**HDPCR™ Multi-Drug Resistance Panel:** For research use only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures.

HDPCR MDR	
Extended Spectrum Beta-Lactamases	
• CTX-M	
Carbapenemases	
• IMP	• OXA-48
• KPC	• VIM
• NDM	
Polymyxin Resistance	
• <i>mcr-1</i>	
Vancomycin Resistance (Enterococci)	
• <i>vanA</i>	
Toxigenic <i>C. difficile</i>	
• <i>tcdB</i> ( <i>C. difficile</i> toxin B gene)	

# What criteria is utilized by your DPH for submission of carbapenemase producing organisms?

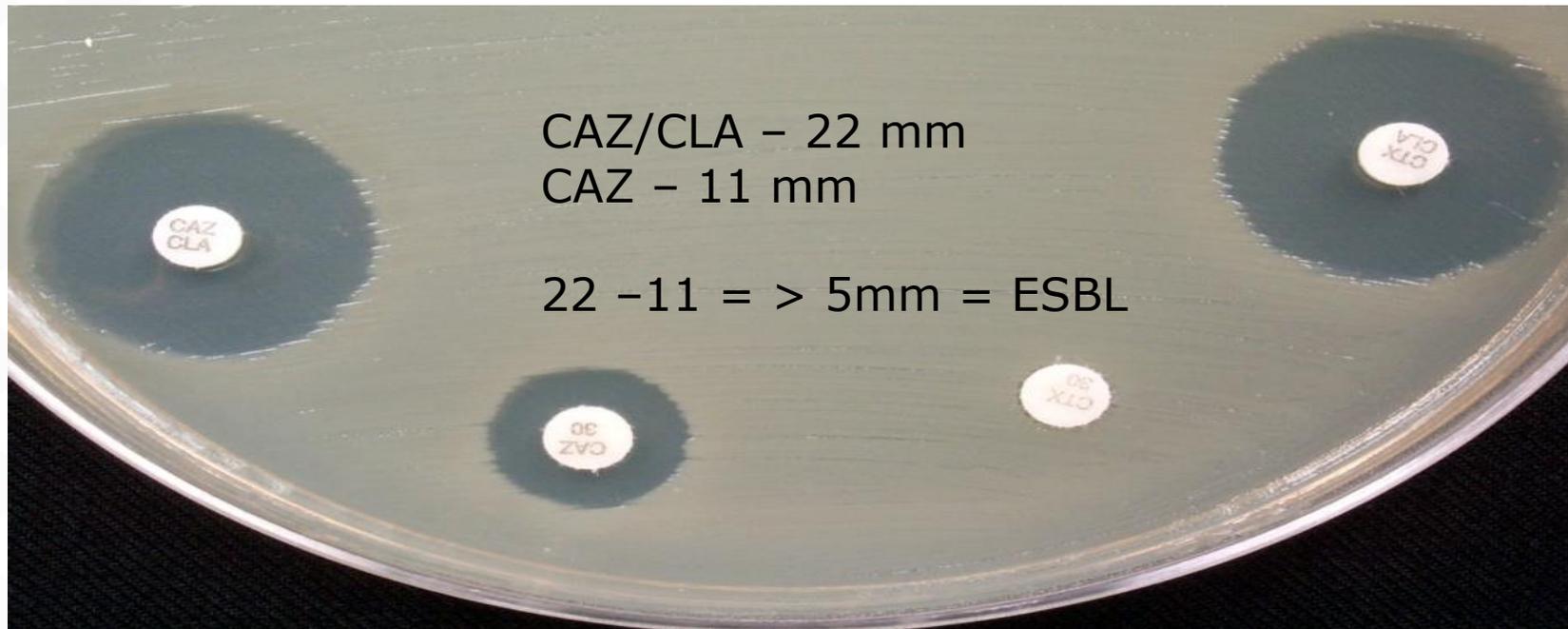
- A. Submit all Enterobacterales isolates with phenotypic resistance to at least one carbapenem and/or PCR detection of a carbapenemase gene (i.e. KPC, NDM, VIM, IMP, OXA-48).
- B. Submit (5) *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* isolates resistant to meropenem or PCR detection of a carbapenemase gene.
- C. Submit all *Acinetobacter* species isolates that are resistant to any carbapenem, except ertapenem, or PCR detection of a carbapenemase gene.
- D. All of the above.
- E. Other

# Does your laboratory perform ESBL confirmation?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

# Extended-spectrum B-lactamase (ESBL)

- *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Escherichia coli*, and *Proteus mirabilis*.
- Various ESBL genes are defined: CTX-M, SHV, TEM
- If current breakpoints are in use, then routine ESBL testing is not necessary but may be useful for epidemiological and infection prevention purposes.



## Case 2:

- 49 year old, female patient.
- Presented with worsening respiratory conditions (respiratory failure). Ventilator dependent. Various hospital stays and a trach for 4 months as the time of culture. Complicated medical history.
- Specimen: Lukens trap collection container for Respiratory Culture.
  - Gram stain: many neutrophils but no organisms seen.
  - Culture grew *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Antibiotic	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation	Antibiotic	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation
Amikacin	>32	Resistant	Gentamicin	>8	Resistant
Ceftazidime	>16	Resistant	Levofloxacin	>4	Resistant
Cefepime	>16	Resistant	Meropenem	8	<u>Resistant</u>
Ciprofloxacin	>2	Resistant	Piperacillin / Tazobactam	>64/4	Resistant
Tobramycin	>8	Resistant	Ceftazidime / Avibactam	>8/4	Resistant
Ceftolozane / Tazobactam	>8/4	Resistant	CPO Well		<u>Positive</u>

# M100-S32: Appendix B. Intrinsic Resistance

## B2. Non-Enterobacterales

Antimicrobial Agent \ Organism	Ampicillin, Amoxicillin	Piperacillin	Ticarcillin	Ampicillin-sulbactam	Amoxicillin-clavulanate	Piperacillin-tazobactam	Cefotaxime	Ceftriaxone	Ceftazidime	Cefepime	Aztreonam	Imipenem	Meropenem	<b>Ertapenem</b>	Polymyxin B Colistin	Aminoglycosides	Tetracyclines/Tigecycline	Trimethoprim	Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole	Chloramphenicol	Fosfomycin
<i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> / <i>Acinetobacter calcoaceticus</i> complex	R				R						R			R				R		R	R
<i>Burkholderia cepacia</i> complex <sup>a</sup>	R	R	R	R	R	a	a	a		a	a	a		R	R	a		a			R
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	R			R	R		R	R						R			R	R	R	R	
<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophilia</i>	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R			R	R	R	R		R	b	R			R

Abbreviation: MIC, minimal inhibitory concentration; R, resistant.

NOTE 1: These nonfermentative gram-negative bacteria are also intrinsically resistant to penicillin (ie, benzylpenicillin), cephalosporins I (cephalothin, cefazolin), cephalosporin II (cefuroxime), cephamycins (cefoxitin, cefotetan), clindamycin, daptomycin, fusidic acid, glycopeptides (vancomycin), linezolid, macrolides (erythromycin, azithromycin, clarithromycin), quinupristin-dalfopristin, and rifampin.

NOTE 2: Information in boldface type is new or modified since the previous edition.

## Case 2: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*

- CPO well positive.
- Purity plate was not mixed.
- PHX GN Panel was repeated and susceptibility results remained the same.
- Carba-R PCR was performed: VIM was detected.
- Reported and confirmed: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. This organism is a PCR confirmed carbapenemase producer (VIM).
- This was an extremely resistant isolate.

# CLSI M39-ED5:2022 Analysis and Presentation of Cumulative Antimicrobial Susceptibility Test Data, 5th Edition

If you perform molecular based identification of resistance genes, are these results incorporated into the antibiogram?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Unsure
- D. Molecular not performed

Table 24. Common Antimicrobial Resistance Genes and Predicted Phenotype Based on Presence and/or Absence of the Gene

Resistance Gene	Organisms	Phenotype Predicted and Accuracy of Prediction <sup>a</sup>			
		Presence	Approximate Accuracy	Absence	Approximate Accuracy
<i>mecA</i>	<i>S. aureus</i>	MRSA	98% to 100%	MSSA	98% to 100%
<i>vanA/vanB</i>	<i>E. faecalis</i> or <i>E. faecium</i>	VRE	95% to 100%	VSE	95% to 100%
<i>bla</i> <sub>CTX-M</sub>	Enterobacterales <i>P. aeruginosa</i> <i>A. baumannii</i> <i>S. maltophilia</i>	ESBL producing gram-negative organism: resistance to penicillins, narrow- and expanded-spectrum cephalosporins	95% to 100%	N/A. The lack of detection does not predict susceptibility because many other mechanisms can lead to resistance.	50% to 95%
<i>bla</i> <sub>KPC</sub> , <i>bla</i> <sub>NDM</sub> , <i>bla</i> <sub>OXA-48</sub> , <i>bla</i> <sub>VIM</sub> , <i>bla</i> <sub>IMP</sub>	Enterobacterales <i>P. aeruginosa</i> <i>A. baumannii</i>	Carbapenemase-producing gram-negative organism: resistance to penicillins, narrow- and expanded-spectrum cephalosporins, and carbapenems	95% to 100%	N/A. The lack of detection does not predict susceptibility because many other mechanisms can lead to resistance.	10% to 98%

## Case 3:

- 43 yr old female.
- Drainage collected for wound culture (aerobic culture + Gram stain).
- Gram stain: Many neutrophils and gram-positive cocci
- Identification: *Staphylococcus aureus*
- **Preliminary Antibiotic Profile:**

Antibiotic	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation	Antibiotic	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation
Ampicillin / Sulbactam	8/4	Resistant	Trimethoprim / Sulfamethoxazole	DD	<u>Resistant</u>
Clindamycin	> 4	Resistant	Ceftaroline	> 8	<u>Resistant</u>
Erythromycin	> 4	Resistant	Vancomycin	> 32	<u>Resistant</u>
Minocycline	> 8	Resistant			
Oxacillin	> 4	<u>Resistant</u>			
Tetracycline	> 8	Resistant			

What would you do if you obtained a vancomycin resistant result for *Staphylococcus aureus*?

- A. Release results
- B. Check purity plate
- C. Report to the public health laboratory
- D. Unsure
- E. Repeat AST from a fresh isolate

## Case 3:

- 43 yr old female.
- Drainage collected for wound culture (aerobic culture + Gram stain).
- Identification: *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- **Phx GP Panel repeated on a fresh isolate.**

Antibiotic	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation	Antibiotic	MIC (µg/mL)	Interpretation
Ampicillin / Sulbactam	≤ 2/1	Susceptible	Trimethoprim / Sulfamethoxazole	DD	Susceptible
Clindamycin	< 0.5	<u>Susceptible</u>	Ceftaroline	0.25	Susceptible
Erythromycin	> 4	Resistant	Vancomycin	1	Susceptible
Minocycline	≤ 1	Susceptible			
Oxacillin	> 4	<u>Resistant</u>			
Tetracycline	≤ 0.5	Susceptible			

# D-Zone Test: Inducible Clindamycin Resistance

- Inducible Clindamycin Resistance: erythromycin and clindamycin
  - If erythromycin tests resistant but clindamycin tests susceptible or intermediate in *Staphylococcus* or certain *Streptococcus* species then perform a D-test to ensure that an inducible clindamycin resistance gene is not present.



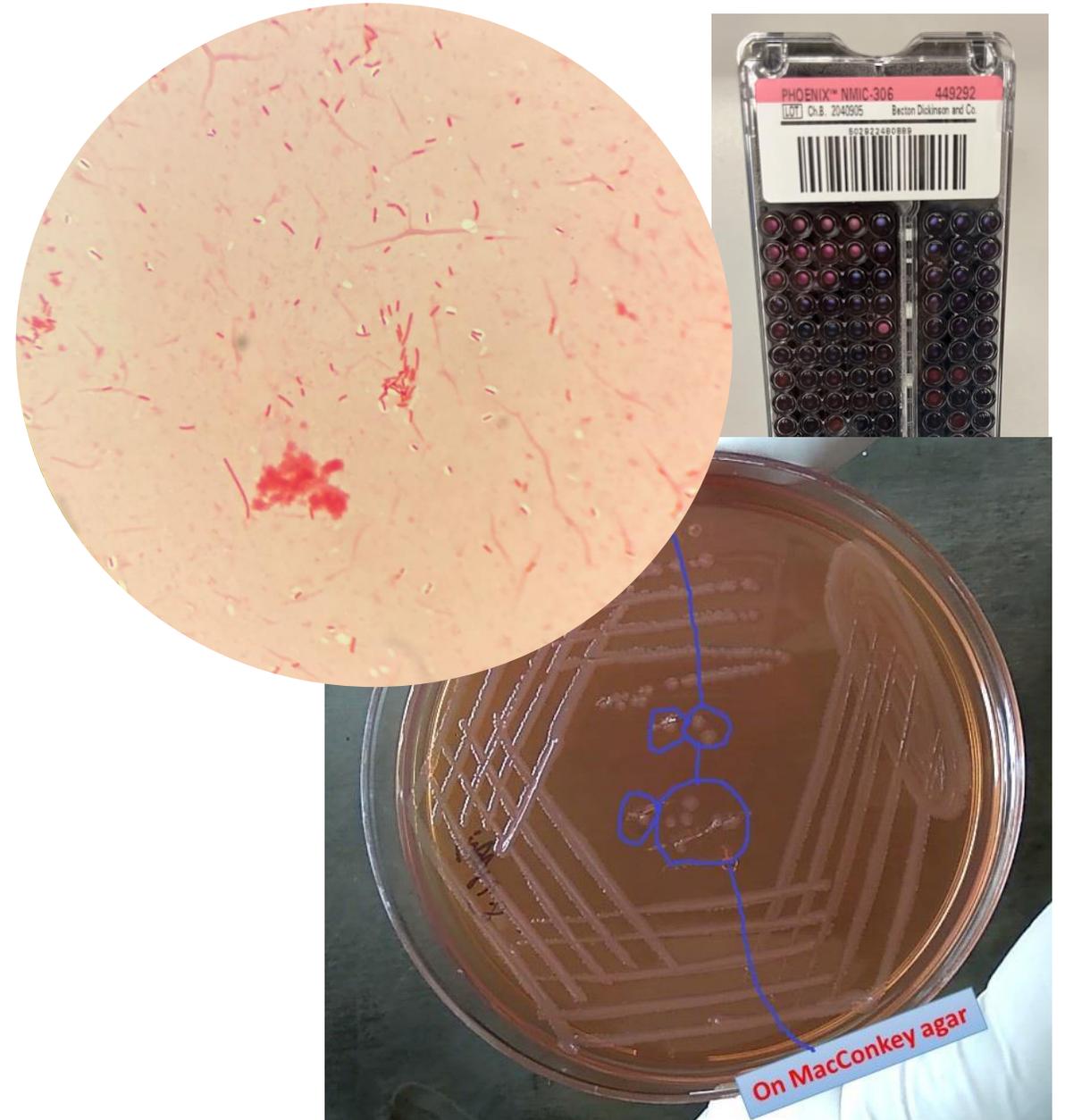
**Figure 8.7**—Blunting of clindamycin zone due to inducible resistance.

## Case 3:

- D-zone Test positive: report clindamycin resistant.
- This isolate is oxacillin resistant, report Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA).
- Options also exist for molecular detection of MRSA through *mecA*, *mecC*, *mecA/C*, and *mecA/C* with MREJ cassette.

## Case:4

- 8 year old patient
- Presented with fever, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.
- Recent travel to Pakistan (1 month duration).
- Blood Cultures positive: gram-negative rod.
- MALDI-TOF MS identification performed using Sepsityper process: *Salmonella* species
- Since this was an extraintestinal *Salmonella* antibiotic susceptibility testing was automatically performed using BD Phoenix NMIC-306 panel on pure isolated colony growth.
- Antibiotic susceptibility reporting is based on antibiotic cascade rules, which include CLSI M100S32 guidance.



# Does your laboratory automatically perform AST testing for *Salmonella* isolates?

- Yes, both intestinal and extraintestinal isolates.
- No, only by clinician request.
- Yes, extraintestinal isolates only
- Yes, but only for *Salmonella enterica* serotype Typhi

## Case 4:

Antibiotic	MIC (mcg/mL)	Interpretation
Ampicillin	>16	Resistant
Cefepime	>16	Resistant
Ceftazidime	>16	Resistant
Ceftriaxone	>32	Resistant
Trimethoprim/Sulfamethoxazole	>2/38	Resistant
Ciprofloxacin	3	Resistant*no bp change
Levofloxacin	8	Resistant*no bp change

- Speciation performed by the CT DPH: *Salmonella enterica* serotype Typhi
- Extensively Drug Resistant (XDR) Typhoid Fever.
- Requested AST for Meropenem & Azithromycin.
- Treatment: Tigecycline initially then switched to 14 days Meropenem q8hrs IV via PICC.

Which of the following classes of antibiotics should not be reported as susceptible, even if AST results susceptible, since not clinically effective for *Salmonella*?

- A. Cephalosporins I (cefazolin)
- B. Cephalosporins II (cefuroxime)
- C. Aminoglycoside (gentamicin)
- D. Cephamycins (cefoxitin)
- E. All of the above

# M100-S32, Appendix B. Intrinsic Resistance Tables

## Appendix B. (Continued)

### B1. Enterobacterales (Continued)

Antimicrobial Agent \ Organism	Ampicillin	Amoxicillin-clavulanate	Ampicillin-sulbactam	Ticarcillin	Cephalosporins I: Cefazolin, Cephalothin	Cephameycins: Cefoxitin, Cefotetan	Cephalosporin II: Cefuroxime	Imipenem	Tetracyclines	Tigecycline	Nitrofurantoin	Polymyxin B Colistin	Aminoglycosides
<i>Salmonella</i> and <i>Shigella</i> spp.	There is no intrinsic resistance to B-lactams in these organisms; refer to WARNING below for reporting.												
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	R	R	R		R	R	R				R	R	
<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>	R	R		R	R								

Abbreviation: R, resistant.

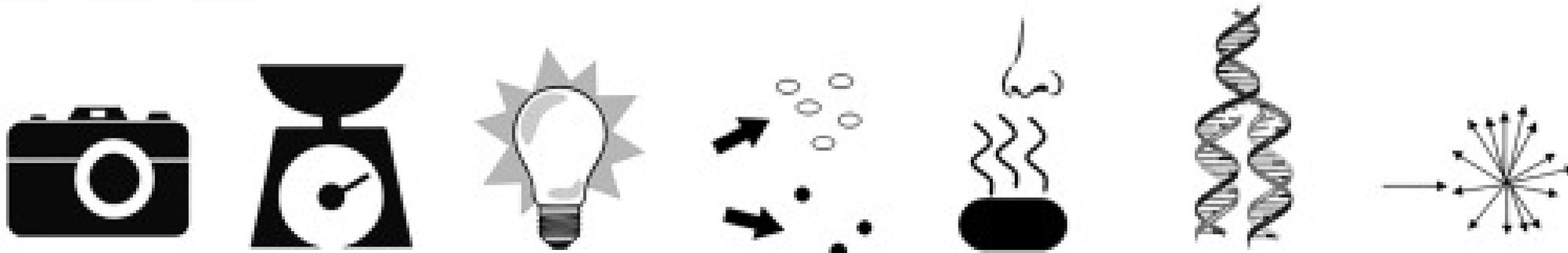
**WARNING:** For *Salmonella* spp. and *Shigella* spp., aminoglycosides, first- and second-generation cephalosporins, and cephamycins may appear active *in vitro* but are not effective clinically and should not be reported as susceptible.

# Direct from Positive Blood Culture/Rapid AST Options

Current and Future

---

# Snapshot of direct from specimen AST: current & in development



Time-lapse imaging	Mass measurement	Detect bioluminescence	Cell sorting / counting	Detect volatile compounds	Evaluation of transcription changes	Light scattering
Phenotest BC (Accelerate Dx)	LifeScale (Affinity Biosensors)	IDAST (Draper)	FASTinov	Reveal AST (Specific Diagnostics)	GoPhAST (NanoString)	Alfred (AllFAX)
dRAST (QuantiMatrix)		vivoDx (Roche)	MultiPath (Firstlight Dx)			216R (BacterioScan)
ASTar (Q-linea)						
NGP (SeLux)						
QuickMIC (Gradientech)						

- CLSI Direct Disk Diffusion Testing
- Qvella FAST Prep Cartridge (pair with MALDI-TOF ID & validate on routine AST)
- Pattern Bioscience

Romney. 2020. LabMed

# Direct from (+) Blood Culture Bottle: ID + AST

## Accelerate Pheno™ System



### System

- 1-4 module(s)
- Control & Analysis PCs
- Touchscreen monitor



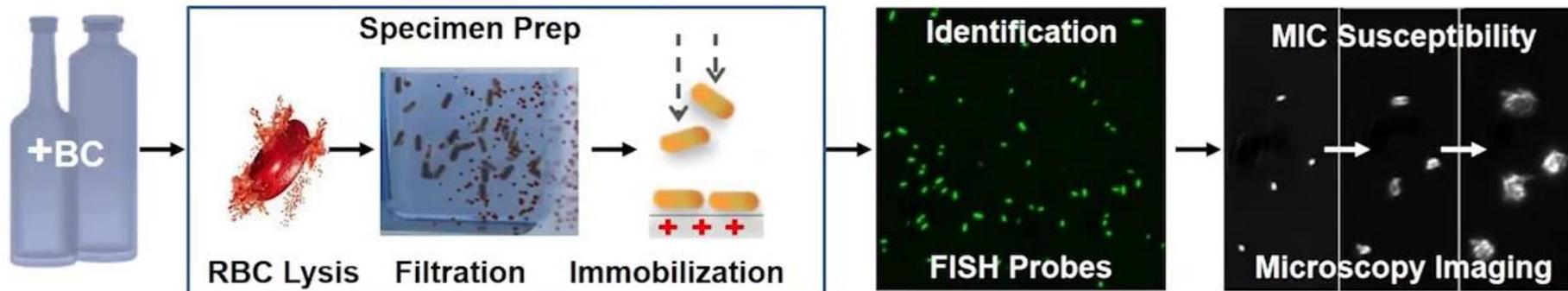
### Module

- Automated pipetting robot
- Digital camera
- Custom microscope

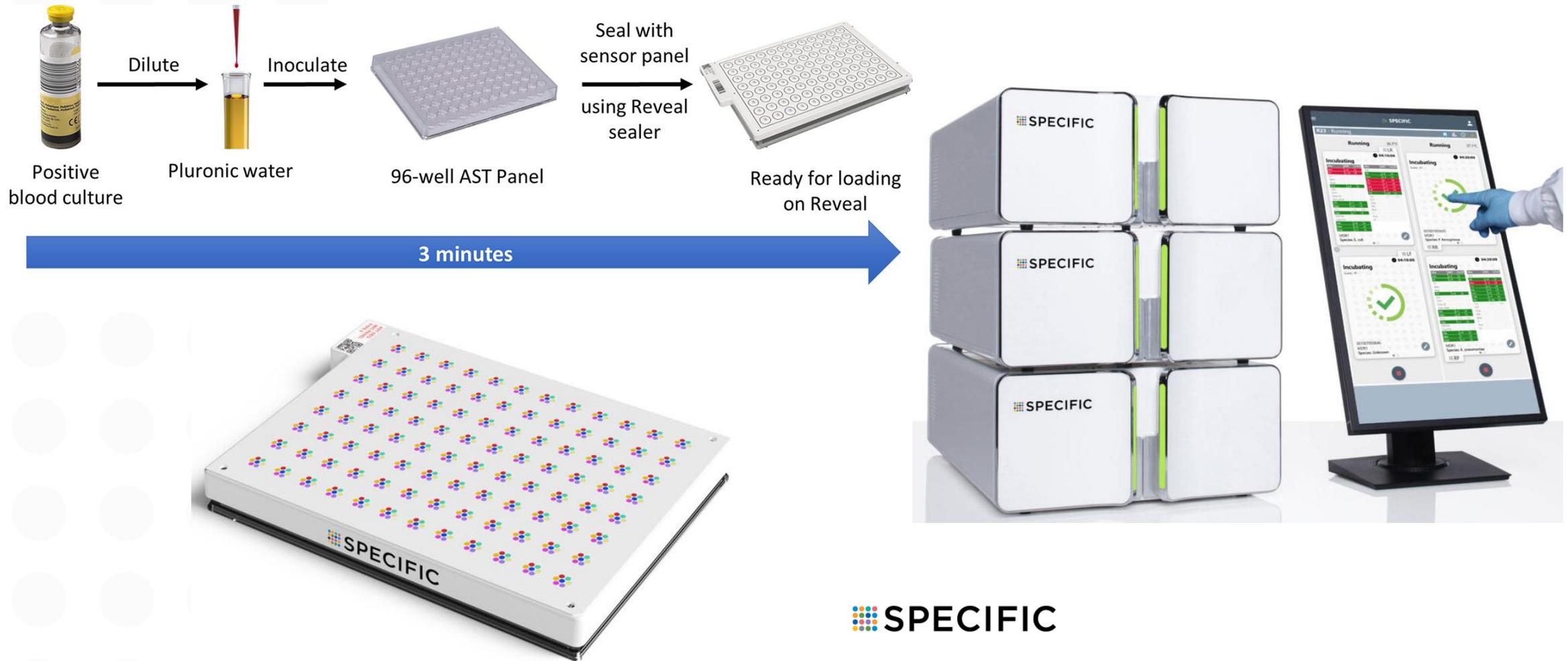


### Kit

- 48 flow-channel cassette
- Reagent cartridge
- Sample vial



# Sampling of direct from Specimen AST:

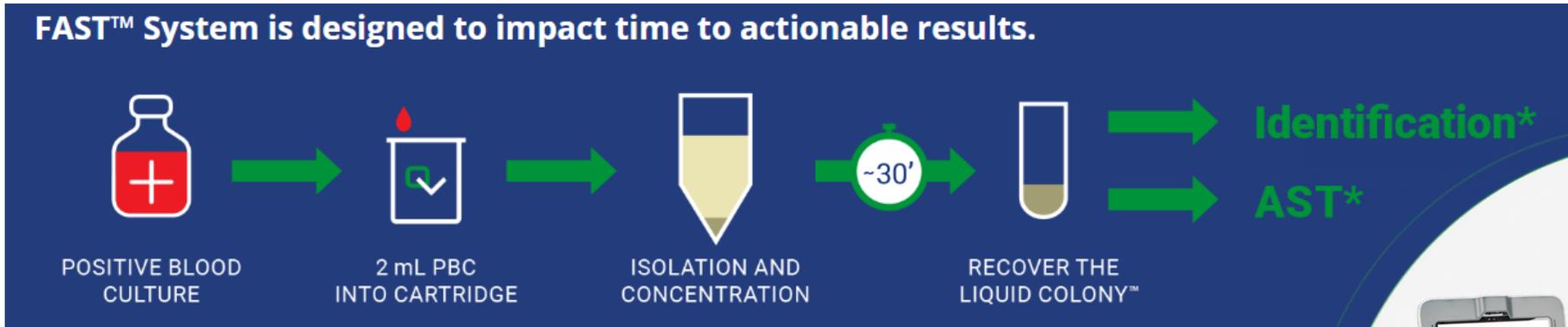


# Sampling of direct from Specimen AST:



Class I IVD devices with the US FDA

**FAST™ System is designed to impact time to actionable results.**



- Device instead of AST panel.
- The objective is to pair with MALDI-TOF MS for rapid identification (if single morphotype), then use the same liquid colony to setup legacy AST.
- Laboratory would need to validate that the concentration obtained as a liquid colony performs comparable to standard inoculum for AST.



# Sampling of direct from Specimen AST:



PBC Separator

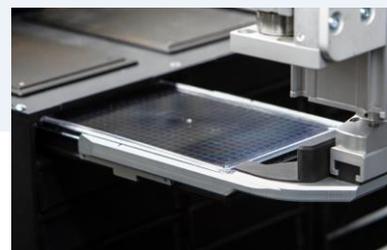


Inoculator



Analyzer

*Instrument in development not for clinical use*



## Next-Generation Phenotyping (NGP)

# CLSI Method for Direct Disk Diffusion Testing From Positive Blood Cultures.

- Laboratory workflows for this method vary based on whether or not the organism identification is available at the time of direct DD set up.
- Direct DD must be set up within 8 hours of the blood culture bottle flagging positive for gram-negative bacilli.
- Identification at the time of direct DD set up include rapid molecular tests or direct from positive blood culture bottle matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS).

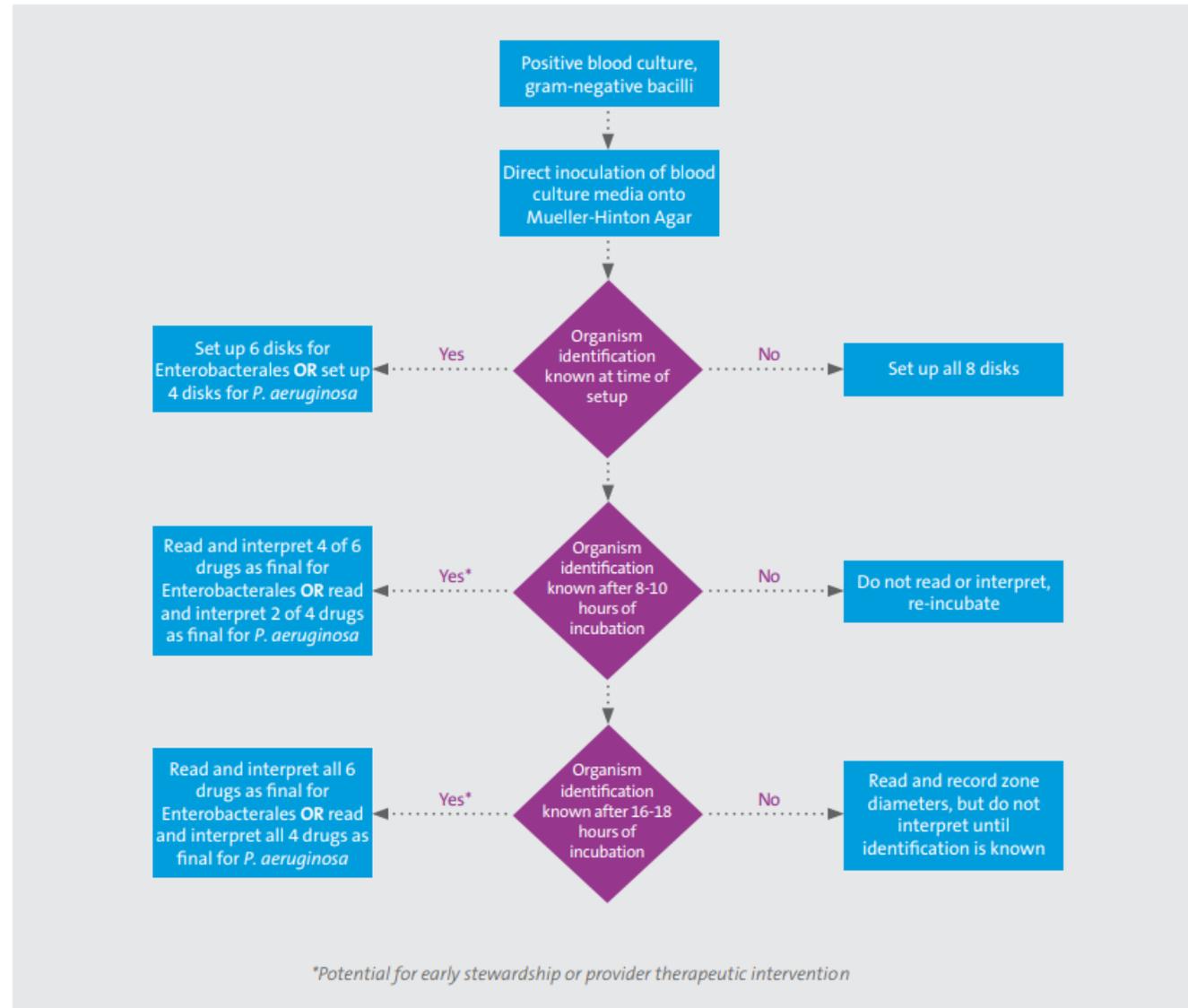


Figure 1. Workflow for direct blood culture disk diffusion testing

# CLSI Method for Direct Disk Diffusion Testing From Positive Blood Cultures

- To establish breakpoints, results from the direct DD method using positive blood culture broth as the inoculum with incubation of the DD test for 8-10 and 16-18 hours were compared to the standard DD method using isolated colonies with 16-18 hours incubation.
- Refer to M100S32 for breakpoints used for direct blood culture DD for Enterobacterales and *P. aeruginosa*.

**Table 1. CLSI Breakpoints for Direct Blood Culture Disk Diffusion**

Antimicrobial	Enterobacterales		<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	
	8-10 hr read	16-18 hr read	8-10 hr read	16-18 hr read
Ampicillin		X		
Aztreonam	X <sup>a</sup>	X		
Ceftazidime	X <sup>a</sup>	X		X <sup>a</sup>
Ceftriaxone	X <sup>a</sup>	X		
Ciprofloxacin			X <sup>a,b</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Meropenem				X <sup>a</sup>
Tobramycin	X <sup>a</sup>	X	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>
Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole		X		

<sup>a</sup> Antimicrobials with direct DD newly provided in M100 32nd edition.  
<sup>b</sup> Antimicrobial for which direct DD breakpoints differ from the standard DD breakpoints. CLSI AST News Update. Volume 7, Issue 1, June 2022.

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