

## Gram stain, colonies 2, 2018

Please find enclosed the results of the round. The specimens were sent to 128 laboratories (altogether from 15 countries). Altogether 97.7% (125/128) of the participants reported their results before closing date.

The specimens consisted of three suspensions, air-dried on slides and unfixed.

**Specimen S001 (LQ760518021): *Moraxella catarrhalis***  
a gram negative diplococcus

**Specimen S002 (LQ760518022): *Candida albicans***  
a yeast

**Specimen S003 (LQ760518023): *Bacillus megaterium***  
a gram positive rod

The reports for this scheme have been renewed and are now generated in LabScala. Choose report name on the left column of My report view in LabScala. Guidelines how to interpret the reports can be found under "LabScala user instructions".

Please note that by default the distribution pies are closed in the reports. You can open the distribution pies by clicking the screen button at the right end of the result distribution row.

The reported results and the scores are presented in the same summary tables. Accepted results are marked with green color and laboratory's own result with a black radio button (⊙). In the scoring report you can see summaries of overall success rate and sample specific success rates (%). If you have not reported results you will get a note: "You have not responded in time, only global report is available."

In case you have any questions regarding the reports, please contact the EQA Coordinator.

### Comments

#### **Specimen S001: *Moraxella catarrhalis***

*Moraxella catarrhalis* is a gram negative coccus. These mid-size coccus cells occur as single cells or in pairs with adjacent sides flattened. The cells have tendency to resist decolorization. 80% of the participating laboratories reported gram staining correctly as gram negative. 97% reported the shape of cells correctly as coccus. Some laboratories commented the arrangement of the cells in pairs.

#### **Specimen S002: *Candida albicans***

*Candida albicans* is a yeast. Cells are spherical or ovoid (2.0 - 7.0 x 3.0 - 8.5 µm). Yeast cells appear alone or with budding cell. In addition, pseudohyphal form may also exist. 98% reported the finding correctly as yeast.

#### **Specimen S003: *Bacillus megaterium***

*Bacillus megaterium* is a gram positive rod. The cell is large rod (2.0 - 5.0 x 1.2 - 1.5 µm) with blunt ends. Ellipsoidal or spherical, central or subterminal endospores may exist. The spores do not swell the cell. In this round, only some spores occurred. The cells occur singly or in short chains. Gram staining may

2018-06-26

### FINAL REPORT

Product no. 5040  
LQ760518021-023/FI  
Subcontracting: Sample preparation, sample pretesting

Items sent	2018-04-24
Round closed	2018-05-17
Expected results	2018-05-22
Report released	2018-06-26

### The report contains

- Expected results of the specimens
- Colour printout
- Expert's comments
- Laboratory specific result and scoring summary

### Request for corrections

Typing errors in laboratory's result forms are on laboratory's responsibility. Labquality accepts responsibility only for result processing.

Requests must be notified by writing within three weeks from the date of this letter.

### Expert

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be variable. 91% of the participating laboratories reported gram staining correctly as gram positive. 97% reported the shape of cells correctly as rod. Many laboratories commented the large size of the cells and some participants commented also arrangement of the cells in chains.

### **Scoring, general rules**

Results reported for the “Gram staining” and “Finding” parts are scored. In case of yeast only “Finding” part is scored”. Scoring is implemented for each result or specimen when 60% or more of the participants report a correct result. The scoring range is 0-2 points and the following general rules are followed:

- 2 points is given to results that are correct/accepted regarding the expected result
- 1 point can be given to results that are partly correct/insufficient regarding the expected result
- 0 point is given to results that are incorrect/false regarding the expected result

Exceptions: In this round, the yeast sample (S002) caused some problem because in some slides yeast cells existed also in sample S003. This is a technical problem (contamination), which won't affect the scoring. Multiple species are not encountered in the specimens of this EQA scheme.

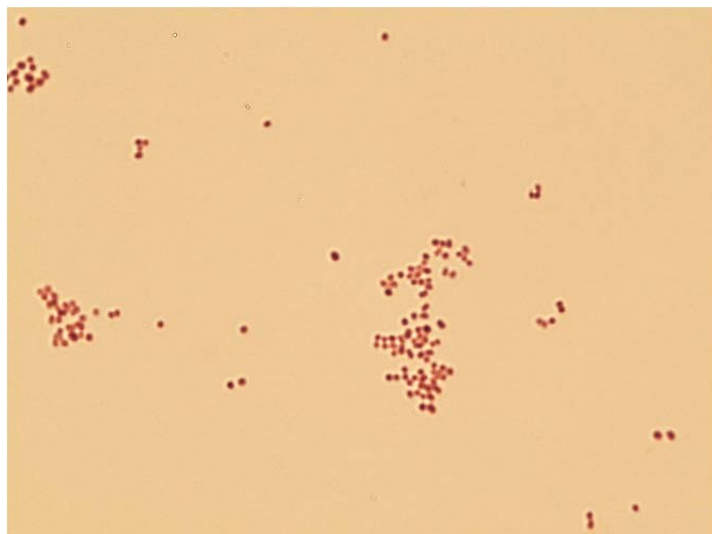
Laboratory's scores have been converted to percentage (own success rate, % from maximum scores) with a target at 100%. Own success rate is compared with the success rate of all results.

For laboratories ordering paper printouts; the laboratory-specific summary tables and report letter of this scheme are also available on Labquality homepage ([www.labquality.fi](http://www.labquality.fi)). Please login to LabScala and fill in your laboratory's client code/personal user name and password. You are able to access your reports via LabScala by selecting “View reports” from the front page. Search for the specific scheme by name or code or press “Choose” to see all.

### **End of report**

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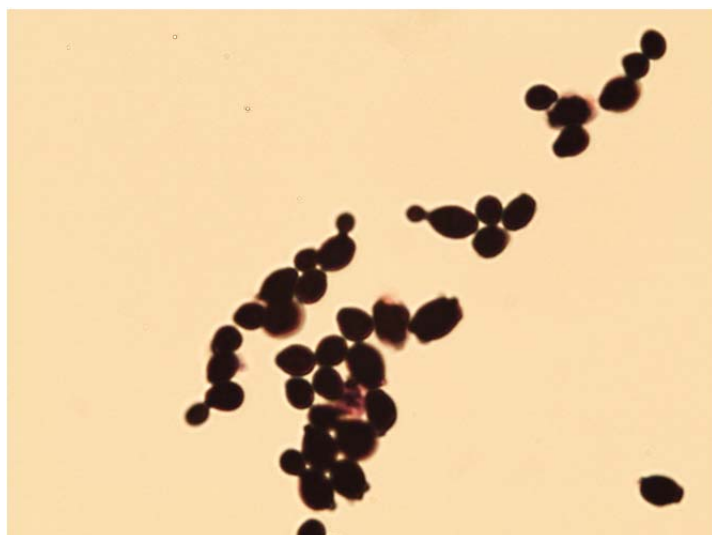
## S001

***Moraxella catarrhalis*,**  
a gram negative diplococcus.

Characteristics:  
a mid-size diplococcus.

***Moraxella catarrhalis*,**  
gramnegatiivinen diplokokki.

Tunnusomaista: keskikokoinen  
diplokokki.



## S002

***Candida albicans*,**  
a yeast.

Characteristics:  
yeast cells with budding cells.

***Candida albicans*,**  
hiiva.

Tunnusomaista:  
hiivasoluja yhdessä tytärsolujen kanssa.



## S003

***Bacillus megaterium*,**  
a gram positive rod.

Characteristics:  
a large rod with blunt ends  
occurs in chains.

***Bacillus megaterium*,**  
grampositiivinen sauva.

Tunnusomaista:  
iso tylppäpäinen sauva  
ketjussa.

Pictures taken with 100 x lens.  
Kuvattu 100 x objektiivilla.