LABQUALITY

External Quality Assessment Scheme

Quantitative urine culture, screening Round 3, 2017

Welcome to participate in the EQA Scheme for Urine culture.

Specimens

Please find enclosed two lyophilized specimens and vials of rehydration fluid. Handle the specimens with the same care as corresponding clinical specimens capable of transmitting infectious disease. Specimens should be stored at 2 ... 8 °C. Please follow the instructions, incubate and culture the specimens and read the results. Record your results by using the electronic result form. Follow the standard operating procedure of your laboratory for disposal of the specimens.

Background information

Specimen 001 (LQ761917031): Acute cystitis of a basically healthy female.

Specimen 002 (LQ761917032): A 90-year-old female with an indwelling catheter.

Preparing the specimens for culture

- 1) Warm the 99 mL bottle of dilution fluid to 35 ... 37 °C.
- 2) Discard the blue-coloured cap from the vial of rehydration fluid.
- Transfer the colourless cap (inside the foil packet) to the vial of the rehydration fluid. The bacterial specimen is fixed in the black particles inside the colourless cap.
- 4) Mix the content of the vial by using a vortex. Invert the vial and hold it inverted in the incubator at 35 ... 37 °C for 15 minutes so that the bacteria in the cap will dissolve in the rehydration fluid.
- 5) Shake the vial occasionally. Take the vial out of the incubator after 15 minutes, mix the content of the vial by vortexing, open the cap and check that there are no black particles inside the cap. Continue to dissolve the specimen until no black particles are left in the cap.
- Decant the contents of the small vial completely into the 99 mL bottle of warm dilution fluid.
- 7) Immediately mix the contents of the bottle and culture similar to patient specimens.

NOTICE! The paper pad inside the vial with the colourless cap is a desiccant.

Primary culture

The specimens should be cultured and incubated as corresponding clinical specimens.

Results

Please report your results in LabScala.

LabScala instructions are found in "LabScala User instructions" on the top right-hand corner of LabScala web page. The paper form enclosed in the shipment is intended for laboratory's internal use.

Instructions

Product no. 5060 LQ761917031-032/US UN3373 Subcontracting: Sample pretesting

The shipment includes

- 2 lyophilized specimens
- 2 vials of rehydration fluid (blue caps)
- 2 bottles of dilution buffer
- Result form for laboratory's internal use

If the kit is incomplete or contains damaged specimens, please report immediately to the EQA coordinator in order to get replacements.

Closing date

Kindly note, that your results should be returned via LabScala not later than **September 28, 2017.**

The expected results of the round are published in LabScala in the View Reports section on October 3, 2017.

Inquiries

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First report the kind of urine culture method you use; dip slide or plate culture. Note that only one option (method) can be recorded, do not report several methods. Report the quantity of bacteria present and the number of colonies observed when plate culture is used. Next, report the significance of the growth. Finally, answer your alternative for "Further handling".

Closing date

Please note, that results, which are received at Labquality after the closing date, are not accepted in the result processing. Detailed info can be found in the column on right side on the reverse page.

Barcodes for the specimens

S001: LQ761917031



S002: LQ761917032

