

***Neisseria gonorrhoeae* (Gc) culture and susceptibility testing 4, 2017**

Welcome to participate in the EQA round for *N. gonorrhoeae* culture and antimicrobial susceptibility testing.

Laboratories performing susceptibility testing

When antimicrobial susceptibility testing is included in your laboratory's test selection, kindly perform the testing for the isolated *N. gonorrhoeae* strains.

Specimens

Please find enclosed two lyophilized specimens (**S001**: LQ761117041 and **S002**: LQ761117042) and two vials of rehydration fluid. The specimens are suitable both for screening and for final identification. The specimens simulate urethra/cervical samples and should therefore be handled as corresponding patient samples capable of transmitting infectious disease. Store the specimens at 2 ... 8 °C. Follow the standard operating procedure of your laboratory for disposal of the specimens.

Handling instructions

1. Let the specimens and the rehydration fluids warm up to room temperature.
2. Cut the foil packet open at the end where you can feel the thicker part of the loop.
3. Remove the plastic sheath from the loop. Break the loop shaft off from the handle directly into the tube containing warm rehydration fluid (blue cap).
4. Incubate the tube for 45 minutes at 35 ... 37 °C.
5. Check that the black film inside the loop (containing the lyophilized specimen) has dissolved completely.
6. Mix well the contents of the tube and culture immediately similar to a clinical specimen.

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.

Fill in the "Report to the clinician" and "Confirmation of the findings". Next, you can report the amount of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* colonies on the plate, as well as identification tests used.

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing

Please record which standard is followed in your laboratory for susceptibility testing procedures. Susceptibility test results are given only to the antimicrobial agents, which are routinely used in your laboratory for *N. gonorrhoeae* isolates. For the diffusion method, report inhibitory zone diameter (mm) and for the MIC method, report the MIC value as mg/L. In the last field, report corresponding SIR interpretation (**S**ensitive/**I**ntermediate/**R**esistant). The interpretation should be reported by taking into consideration possible resistance mechanisms of the microbe.

2017-11-01

Instructions

Product no. 5120
LQ761117041-042/US UN3373
Subcontracting: Sample pretesting

The shipment includes

- 2 lyophilized specimens
- 2 vials of rehydration fluid
- Result forms for laboratory's internal use

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

Please return your results via LabScala no later than **November 23, 2017.**

The expected results of the round are published in LabScala in the View Reports section on November 27, 2017.

Enquiries

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Closing date

Please note, that results, which are received at Labquality after the closing date, are not accepted in the result processing.

Barcodes for the specimens

S001: LQ761117041



S002: LQ761117042

