

External Quality Assessment Scheme

Mycobacterial culture and stain Round 1, 2023

Specimens

Please find enclosed 2 lyophilized samples S001 and S002 and 2 smears on slides S003 and S004. The shipment also includes vials of rehydration fluid for S001 and S002, each 0.5 mL.

Caution

Specimens simulate patient specimens and they should be handled in the same way as corresponding specimens capable of transmitting infectious disease.

Background information

Specimen S001
Simulated sputum

Specimen S002
Simulated sputum

Examinations

Mycobacterial culture and stain
Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection

Storage and use

After arrival, the samples should be stored at +2...8 °C.

1. Let the specimens and the rehydration fluids warm up to room temperature.
2. Cut the foil package 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 handle directly into the tube containing warm rehydration fluid (blue cap). If the volume in one rehydration liquid (à 0.5 mL) tube is not enough for your method, there are two extra tubes included in the package.
4. Incubate the tube for 30 minutes in +35...37 °C incubator.
5. Check that the black film inside the loop (containing the lyophilized specimen) has dissolved completely.
6. Mix well the content of the tube and handle similar to a clinical specimen.

After rehydration specimens S001 and S002 are to be cultured by the method that you routinely use in your laboratory. The specimens should not be decontaminated. After rehydration specimens S001 and S002 are also suitable to be examined by direct nucleic acid detection methods. Specimens S003 and S004 are ready-fixed preparations. They are to be stained by the staining method that you routinely use. Note that the identification number is on the foil package and the slide is not marked.

Result reporting

Please enter the results via LabScala (www.labscala.com). Report to the clinician and Interpretation parts will be scored.

2023-02-28

INSTRUCTIONS

Product no. 5220
LQ760923011-014/US
UN3373

Subcontracting: Sample testing

If the kit is incomplete or contains damaged specimens, please report immediately to info@labquality.fi.

The results should be reported no later than
April 26, 2023.

The expected results of the round are published in LabScala in the View Reports section by April 28, 2023.

Inquiries

EQA Coordinator
Jaana Paakkanen
jaana.paakkanen@labquality.fi

Labquality Oy

Kumpulantie 15
FI-00520 HELSINKI
Finland

Tel. + 358 9 8566 8200
Fax + 358 9 8566 8280

info@labquality.fi
www.labquality.com



Mycobacterial culture and stain

S001



S002



S003



S004



Client report

| | No of participants | No of responded participants | Response percentage |
|---|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mycobacterial culture and stain, March, 1-2023 | 92 | 87 | 94.6 % |
| Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection, March, 1-2023 | 23 | 21 | 91.3 % |

Summary

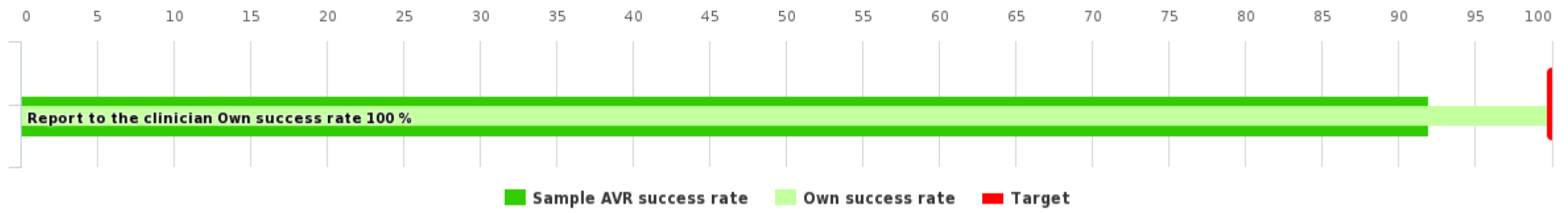


| Summary | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Sample S001 | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 8 % | 92 % |
| Sample S002 | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 1.8 % | 98.2 % |
| Average: | | | 100 % | 4.9 % | 95.1 % |

| History | Test nr. | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|--------------|----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Round 2022-4 | 1 | 100 % | 6.3 % | 93.7 % |
| Round 2022-3 | 1 | 100 % | 3.7 % | 96.3 % |
| Round 2022-2 | 1 | 100 % | 15.9 % | 84.1 % |
| Round 2022-1 | 1 | 100 % | 4.1 % | 95.9 % |
| Round 2021-3 | 1 | 100 % | 5.3 % | 94.7 % |

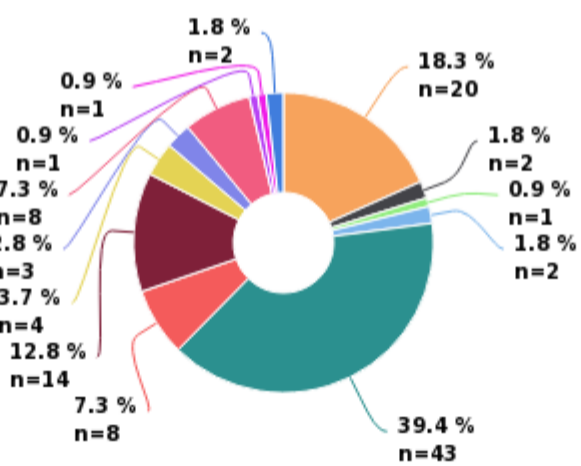
Sample S001 | Mycobacterium intracellulare

Sample S001 success rate



| Sample S001 results | Responded | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate | Count |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|-------|
| | Report to the clinician | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 8 % | 92 % | 109 |
| Total: | | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 8 % | 92 % | 109 |

Sample S001 Mycobacterium intracellulare



- Mycobacterium intracellulare
- Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex
- Mycobacterium avium complex
- Mycobacterium chimaera
- Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
- Atypical mycobacteria
- Mycobacterium sp.
- Acid-fast bacilli
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex
- No acid-fast bacilli

LABORATORY SPECIFIC SCORING TABLE

| Finding group | Finding | Further action | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | Referred for further action | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 8 % | 92 % |
| Total: | | | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 8 % | 92 % |

REPORT TO THE CLINICIAN

| Finding group | Finding | Finding count | Referred | Not referred | AVR success rate |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | | 109 | | | 92 % |
| | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 20 | 8 | 12 | |
| | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Mycobacterium avium complex | 1 | | 1 | |
| | Mycobacterium chimaera | 2 | | 2 | |
| | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 43 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 26 | 17 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 8 | 1 | 7 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 14 | 4 | 10 | |
| | Atypical mycobacteria | 4 | 4 | | |
| | Mycobacterium sp. | 3 | 3 | | |
| | Acid-fast bacilli | 8 | 5 | 3 | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 1 | 1 | | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 1 | 1 | | |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 2 | | 2 | |

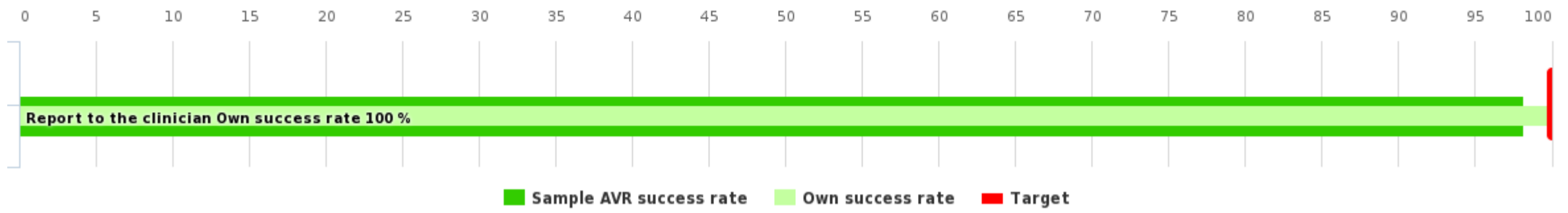
| | | | | |
|--------|--|-----|--|------|
| Total: | | 109 | | 92 % |
|--------|--|-----|--|------|

SCORING SUMMARY

| Finding group | Finding | Finding score | Referred | Max score |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|----------|-----------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | | | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium avium complex | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium chimaera | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 4 | | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 4 | | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 4 | | 4 |
| | Atypical mycobacteria | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium sp. | 4 | | 4 |
| | Acid-fast bacilli | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 0 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 0 | | 4 |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 0 | | 4 |
| Total: | | | | 4 |

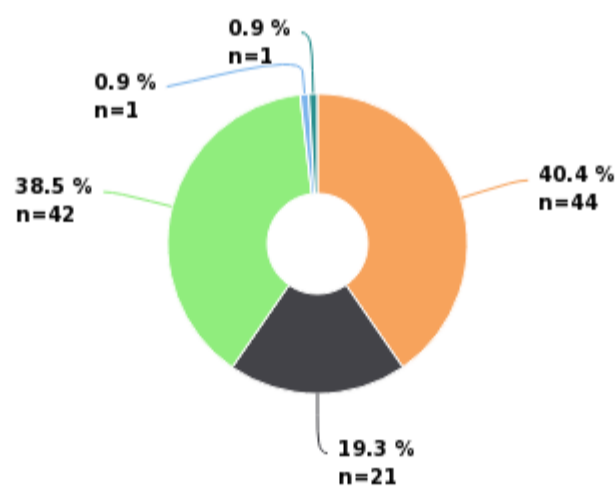
Sample S002 | No acid-fast bacilli

Sample S002 success rate



| Sample S002 results | Responded | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate | Count |
|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|-------|
| | Report to the clinician | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 1.8 % | 98.2 % | 109 |
| Total: | | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 1.8 % | 98.2 % | 109 |

Sample S002 No acid-fast bacilli



- No acid-fast bacilli
- Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex

LABORATORY SPECIFIC SCORING TABLE

| Finding group | Finding | Further action | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | Not referred for further action | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 1.8 % | 98.2 % |
| Total: | | | 4 | 4 | 100 % | 1.8 % | 98.2 % |

REPORT TO THE CLINICIAN

| Finding group | Finding | Finding count | Referred | Not referred | AVR success rate |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------|----------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | | 109 | | | 98.2 % |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 44 | 1 | 43 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 21 | 7 | 14 | |
| | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 42 | 2 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 40 | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 1 | 1 | | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 1 | 1 | | |
| Total: | | 109 | | | 98.2 % |

SCORING SUMMARY

| Finding group | Finding | Finding score | Max score |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|-----------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | | | 4 |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 4 | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 4 | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 4 | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 0 | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 0 | 4 |
| Total: | | | 4 |

Report Info**PARTICIPANTS**

Altogether 115 laboratories from 14 countries participated in this EQA round.

REPORT INFO

On the front page you can see summaries of overall success rate and sample specific success rates which have been calculated from the scores. The reported results and the scores are presented in the same report but in separate tables.

In general, the expected results are marked with green color. Accepted results may also be indicated with yellow color. Laboratory's own results are indicated with a black radio button . In the participant specific report there is also a laboratory specific scoring table for each sample, where you can find your own result and the scores given.

If you have not reported results you will get a note: "You have not responded in time, only global report is available".

For information on report interpretation and performance evaluation, please see the "EQAS Interpretation guidelines" in LabScala User instructions. In case you have any questions regarding the reports, please contact the EQA Coordinator.

SCORING

The results in the "Report to the clinician" part can be scored when at least 60% of the participants have reported the correct/expected result and when there are at least three reported results.

The report includes a sample specific scoring summary.

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.

The following general rules are applied:

4 points is reached by reporting the expected result

1-3 points is given to results that are partly correct/insufficient regarding the expected finding

0 points is given for an incorrect/false result

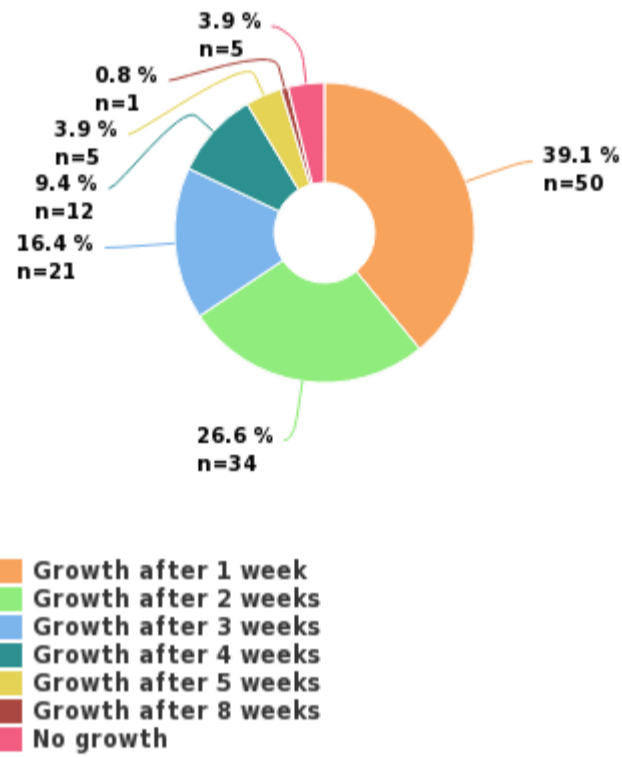
Client report

| | No of participants | No of responded participants | Response percentage |
|---|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mycobacterial culture and stain, March, 1-2023 | 92 | 86 | 93.5 % |
| Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection, March, 1-2023 | 23 | 21 | 91.3 % |

Sample S001 | Mycobacterium intracellulare

| Sample S001 results | Responded | Count |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------|
| | Culture media | 128 |
| | Identification tests: NAT | 92 |
| | Identification tests: Other | 56 |
| | Identification tests: MALDI-TOF | 8 |
| | Total: | 284 |

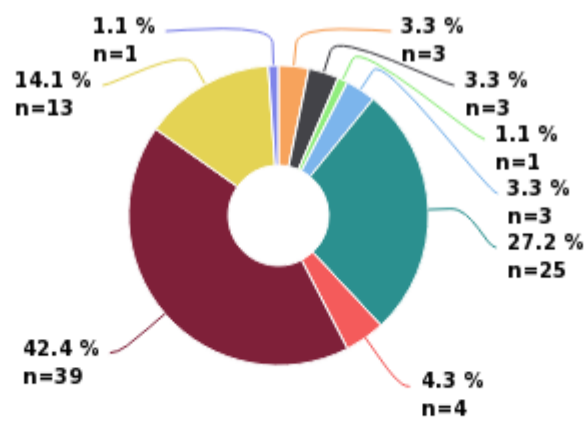
Sample S001 Culture media, Mycobacterium intracellulare



CULTURE MEDIA

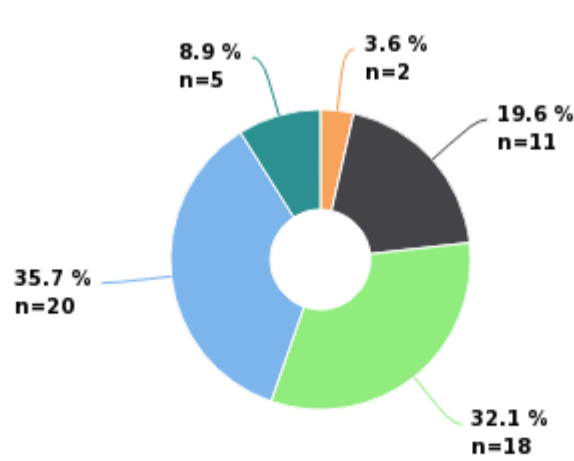
| Finding group | Method | Growth after 1 week | Growth after 2 weeks | Growth after 3 weeks | Growth after 4 weeks | Growth after 5 weeks | Growth after 8 weeks | No growth | Total: |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | | | | | | | | | 128 |
| | BacT/ALERT MP (bioMerieux) | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Bactec MGIT (BD) | 36 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | 41 |
| | Bactec Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials (BD) | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Coletsos medium | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 12 |
| | Finlayson medium | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen | 10 | 28 | 15 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 66 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen+pyruvic acid | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 3 |
| | MiddleBrooks | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Stonebrink medium | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| | VersaTREK Myco medium | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Total: | 50 | 34 | 21 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 128 |

Sample S001 Identification tests:
NAT, Mycobacterium intracellulare



- Atypical mycobacteria
- Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT)
- Mycobacterium avium complex
- Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex
- Mycobacterium intracellulare
- Negative
- Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
- No acid-fast bacilli

Sample S001 Identification tests:
Other, Mycobacterium intracellulare



- Atypical mycobacteria
- Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT)
- Negative
- Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)

IDENTIFICATION TESTS: NAT

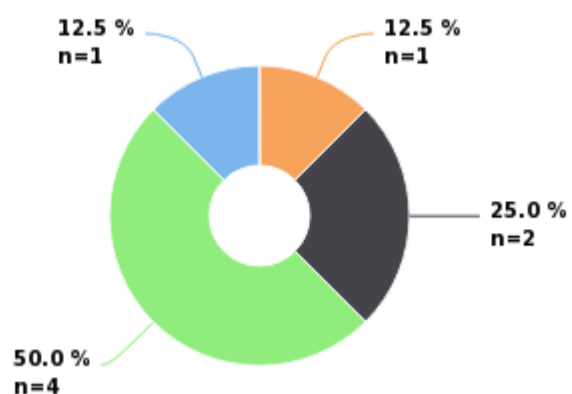
| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|----|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | BD MAX MDR-TB panel (BD) | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 | |
| | | GenoType MTBC (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 1 |
| | | GenoType MTBDRplus 2.0 (Hain Lifescience) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | GenoType mycobacterium AS (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | | GenoType mycobacterium CM (Hain Lifescience) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacterium avium complex | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 2 |
| | | | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 13 |
| | | GenoType NTM-DR (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 6 |
| | | In-house hsp65 gene sequencing | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 4 |
| | | In-house PCR | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 1 |
| | | MDR/MTB ELITe MGB Kit (ELITechGroup) | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| | | Seegene Anyplex MTB/NTM Real-time Detection | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | Xpert MTB/RIF (Cepheid) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | | | Negative | 1 |
| | | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 6 |
| | | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 3 |
| | | Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra (Cepheid) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | Negative | 2 | | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 31 | | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 10 | | |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 1 | | |
| Total: | | | 92 | |

IDENTIFICATION TESTS: OTHER

| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---|----|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | BD MGIT TBc Identification test (BD) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 | |
| | | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 | |
| | | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 5 | |
| | | In-house Nitrate test | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| | | SD BIOLINE TB Ag MPT64 (SD) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 7 |
| | | | Negative | 15 |
| | | | ⊙ Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 13 |
| | | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 3 |
| | | TB MPT 64 Ag test (ubio Biotechnology Systems) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 2 |
| | | | Negative | 2 |
| | | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 2 |

| | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|---|----|
| | TBCheck MPT64 (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| Total: | | | 56 |

Sample S001 Identification tests:
MALDI-TOF, Mycobacterium
intracellulare



- Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex
- Mycobacterium chimaera
- Mycobacterium intracellulare
- Negative

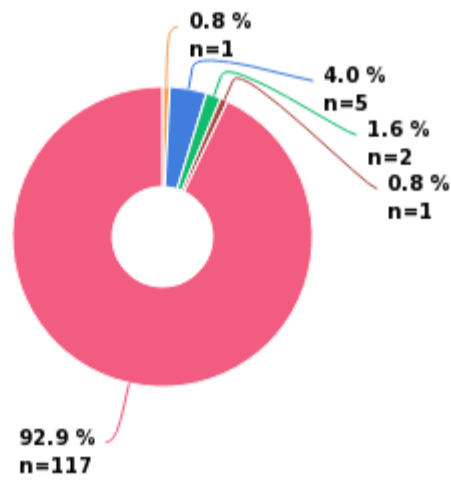
IDENTIFICATION TESTS: MALDI-TOF

| Finding group | Method | Result | Score / Probability % | Score / Probability % count |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | MALDI Biotyper (Bruker) | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | ≥2 | 1 |
| | | Mycobacterium chimaera | ≥2 | 2 |
| | | Mycobacterium intracellulare | ≥2 | 1 |
| | | | ≥1.7..<2 | 1 |
| | | Negative | N/A | 1 |
| | VITEK MS (bioMérieux) | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 99,9 % | 1 |
| | | | 99,5 % | 1 |
| Total: | | | | 8 |

Sample S002 | No acid-fast bacilli

| Sample S002 results | Responded | Count |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| | Culture media | 126 |
| | Identification tests: NAT | 58 |
| | Identification tests: Other | 4 |
| | Total: | 188 |

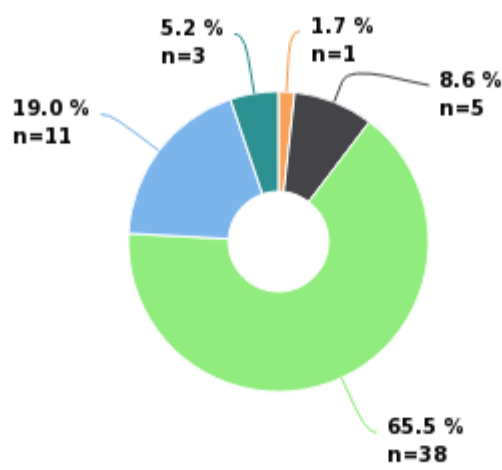
Sample S002 Culture media, No acid-fast bacilli



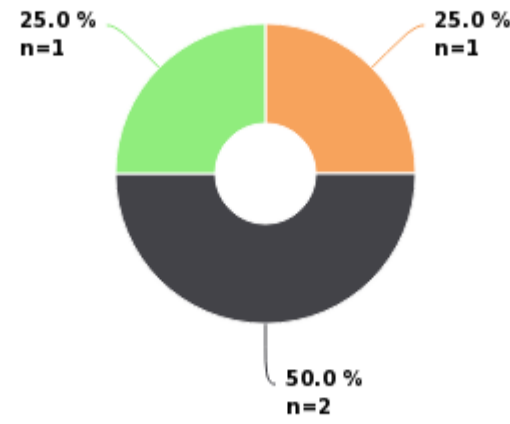
CULTURE MEDIA

| Finding group | Method | Growth after 1 week | Growth after 6 weeks | Growth after 7 weeks | Growth after 8 weeks | No growth | Total: |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | | | | | | | 126 |
| | BacT/ALERT MP (bioMerieux) | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Bactec MGIT (BD) | 1 | - | - | - | 38 | 39 |
| | Bactec Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials (BD) | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Coletsos medium | - | - | - | - | 11 | 11 |
| | Finlayson medium | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen | - | 4 | 1 | 1 | 61 | 67 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen+pyruvic acid | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 |
| | MiddleBrooks | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Stonebrink medium | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| | VersaTREK Myco medium | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Total: | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 117 | 126 |

Sample S002 Identification tests:
NAT, No acid-fast bacilli



Sample S002 Identification tests:
Other, No acid-fast bacilli



■ Atypical mycobacteria
■ Negative
■ Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
■ Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
■ No acid-fast bacilli

■ Atypical mycobacteria
■ Negative
■ Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)

IDENTIFICATION TESTS: NAT

| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count | |
|----------------------|---|---|----------------------|----|
| No acid-fast bacilli | BD MAX MDR-TB panel (BD) | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 | |
| | GenoType MTBDRplus 2.0 (Hain Lifescience) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 | |
| | | No acid-fast bacilli | 2 | |
| | Seegene Anyplex MTB/NTM Real-time Detection | Negative | 1 | |
| | Xpert MTB/RIF (Cepheid) | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 6 | |
| | Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra (Cepheid) | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 2 | |
| | | Negative | 2 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 31 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 9 | |
| | Total: | | No acid-fast bacilli | 1 |
| | | | | 58 |

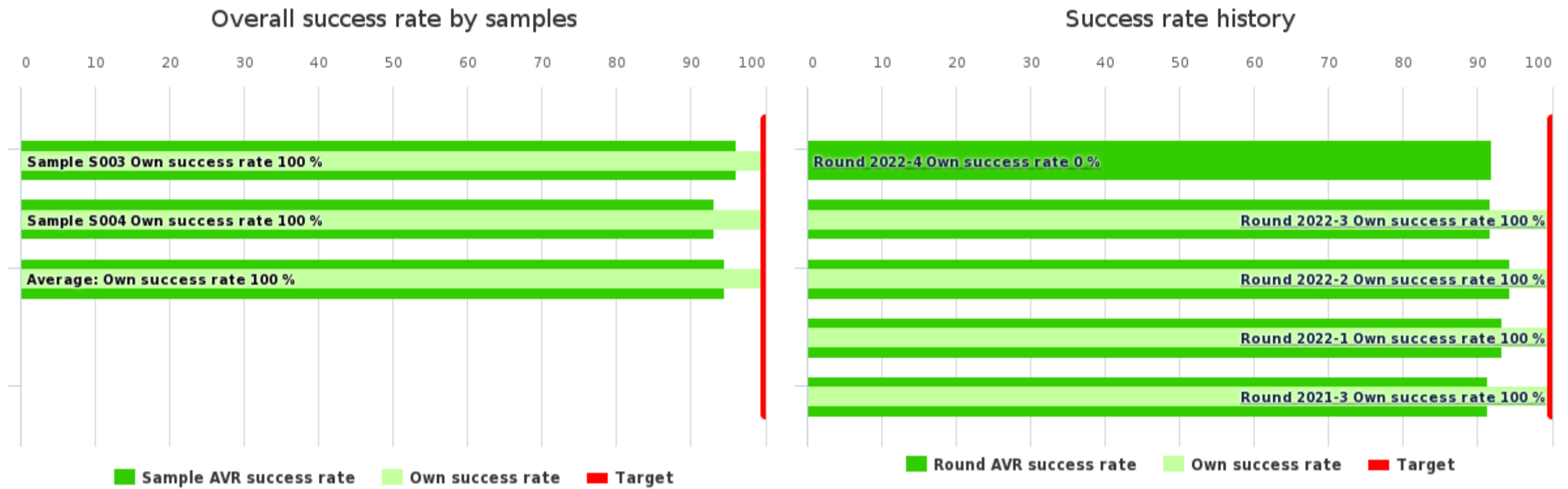
IDENTIFICATION TESTS: OTHER

| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count |
|----------------------|--|---|--------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | SD BIOLINE TB Ag MPT64 (SD) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | Negative | 1 |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| | TB MPT 64 Ag test (ubio Biotechnology Systems) | Negative | 1 |
| Total: | | | 4 |

Client report

| | No of participants | No of responded participants | Response percentage |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mycobacterial culture and stain, March, 1-2023 | 92 | 90 | 97.8 % |
| Mycobacterial stain, March, 1-2023 | 37 | 35 | 94.6 % |

Summary

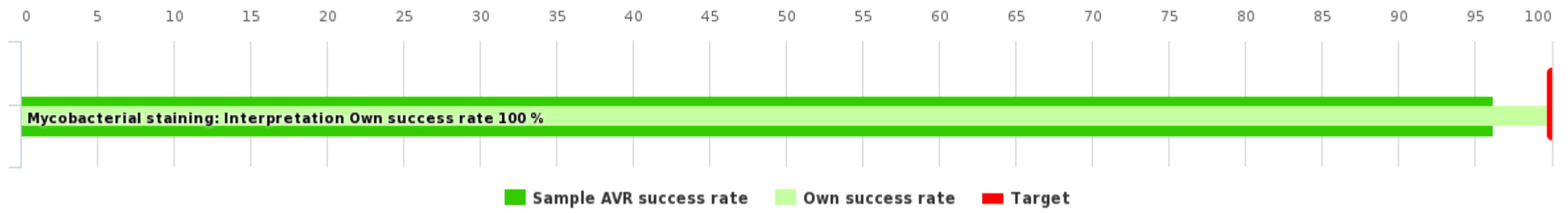


| Summary | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Sample S003 | 2 | 2 | 100 % | 3.8 % | 96.2 % |
| Sample S004 | 2 | 2 | 100 % | 6.9 % | 93.1 % |
| Average: | | | 100 % | 5.4 % | 94.6 % |

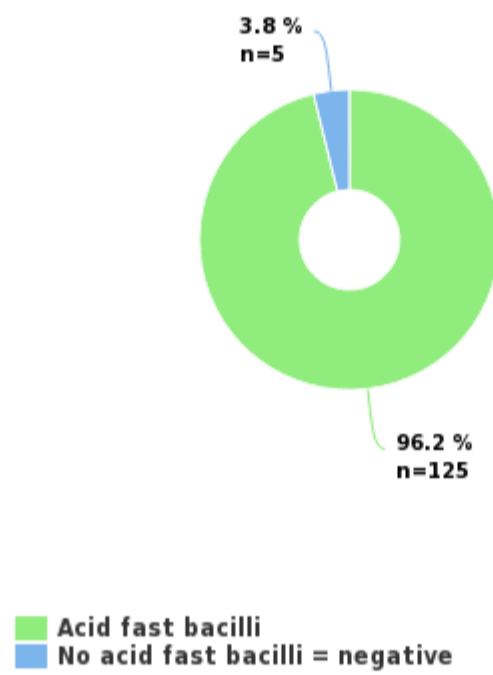
| History | Test nr. | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|--------------|----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| Round 2022-4 | 1-1 | 0 % | -92 % | 92 % |
| Round 2022-3 | 1-1 | 100 % | 8.2 % | 91.8 % |
| Round 2022-2 | 1-1 | 100 % | 5.6 % | 94.4 % |
| Round 2022-1 | 1-1 | 100 % | 6.7 % | 93.3 % |
| Round 2021-3 | 1-1 | 100 % | 8.6 % | 91.4 % |

Sample S003 | Positive / AFB, +++

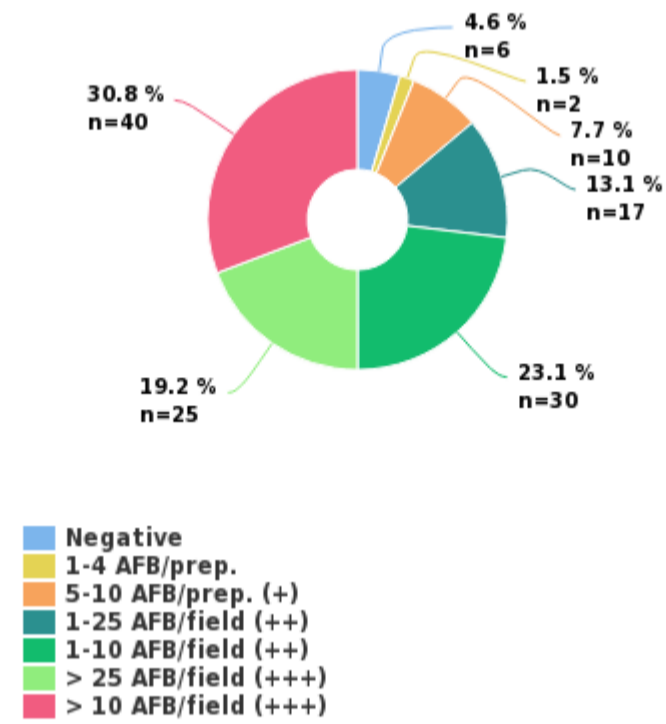
Sample S003 success rate



Sample S003 Mycobacterial staining: Interpretation



Sample S003 Mycobacterial staining: Method



MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: INTERPRETATION

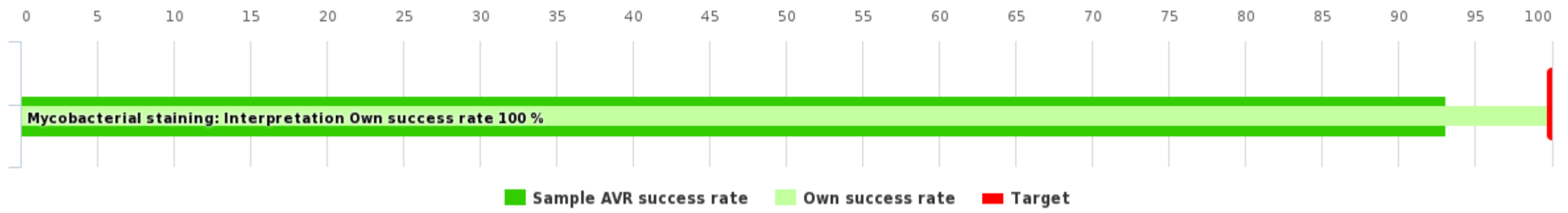
| Interpretation | Interpretation count | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|--|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Acid fast bacilli | 125 | 2 | 2 | 100 % | 0 % | 100 % |
| No acid fast bacilli = negative | 5 | - | | | | 0 % |
| Total: | 130 | 2 | 2 | 100 % | 3.8 % | 96.2 % |

MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: METHOD

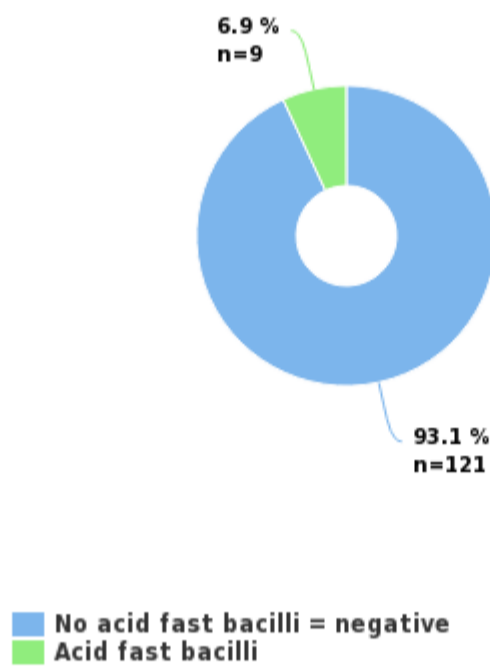
| Method | Negative | 1-4 AFB/prep. | 5-10 AFB/prep. (+) | 1-25 AFB/field (++) | 1-10 AFB/field (++) | > 25 AFB/field (+++) | > 10 AFB/field (+++) | Total: |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Acridine orange | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | 3 |
| Auramine | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 7 | 33 |
| Auramine-Rodamine | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| Kinyoun | - | - | 3 | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | 9 |
| Tan-Thiam-Hok | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Ziehl-Neelsen | 4 | 1 | 6 | 6 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 22 | 5 | 31 | 75 |
| Total: | 6 | 2 | 10 | 17 | 30 | 25 | 40 | 130 |

Sample S004 | No acid-fast bacilli

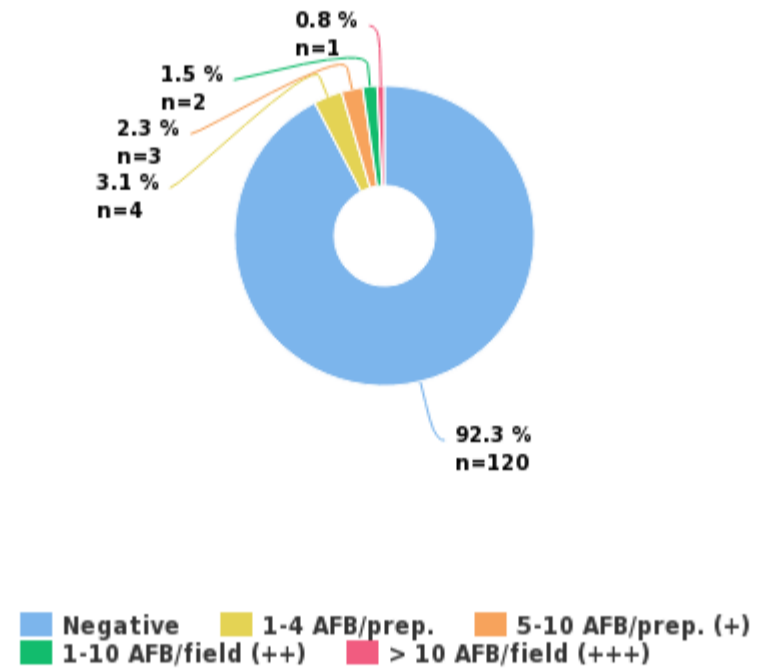
Sample S004 success rate



Sample S004 Mycobacterial staining: Interpretation



Sample S004 Mycobacterial staining: Method



MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: INTERPRETATION

| Interpretation | Interpretation count | Own score | Max score | Own success rate | Difference | AVR success rate |
|--|----------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> No acid fast bacilli = negative | 121 | 2 | 2 | 100 % | 0 % | 100 % |
| Acid fast bacilli | 9 | - | - | - | - | 0 % |
| Total: | 130 | 2 | 2 | 100 % | 6.9 % | 93.1 % |

MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: METHOD

| Method | Negative | 1-4 AFB/prep. | 5-10 AFB/prep. (+) | 1-10 AFB/field (++) | > 10 AFB/field (+++) | Total: |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Acridine orange | 3 | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Auramine | 37 | 1 | - | - | - | 38 |
| Auramine-Rodamine | 7 | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Kinyoun | 8 | - | - | 1 | - | 9 |
| Tan-Thiam-Hok | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Ziehl-Neelsen | <input checked="" type="radio"/> 64 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 72 |
| Total: | 120 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 130 |

Report Info**PARTICIPANTS**

Altogether 127 laboratories from 14 countries participated in this EQA round.

REPORT INFO

On the front page you can see a summary of the overall average success rate and sample specific success rates which have been calculated from the scores.

In general, the expected results are marked with green color. Accepted results may also be indicated with yellow color. Laboratory's own results are indicated with a black radio button . In the participant specific report there is also a laboratory specific scoring table for each sample, where you can find your own result and the scores given..

If you have not reported results, you will get a note: "You have not responded in time, only global report is available."

For information on report interpretation and performance evaluation, please see the "EQAS Interpretation guidelines" in LabScala User instructions. In case you have any questions regarding the reports, please contact the EQA Coordinator.

SCORING

The results in the "Interpretation" part can be scored when at least 60% of the participants have reported the correct/expected result and when there are at least three reported results.

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.

The following general rules are applied:

2 points is reached by reporting the expected correct result

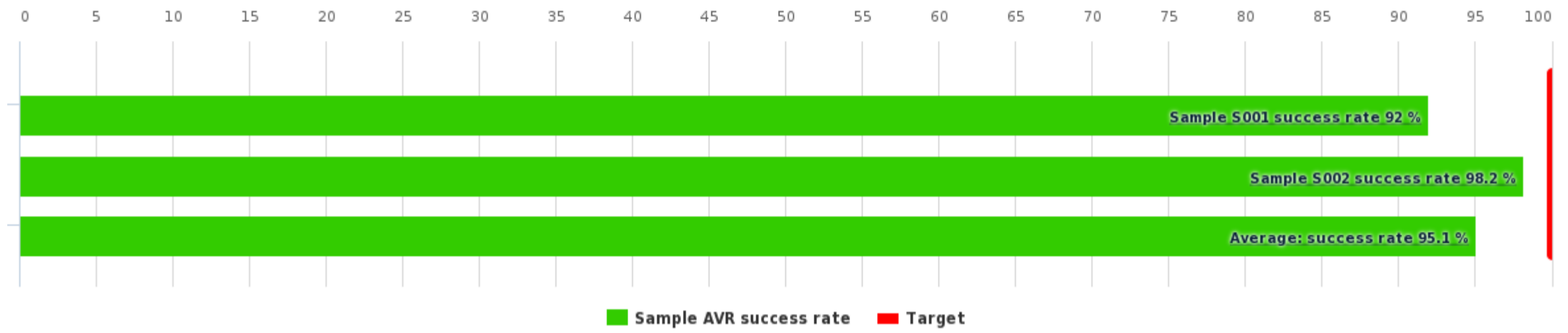
0 points is given for an incorrect/false result

GLOBAL REPORT

| | No of participants | No of responded participants | Response percentage |
|---|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mycobacterial culture and stain, March, 1-2023 | 92 | 87 | 94.6 % |
| Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection, March, 1-2023 | 23 | 21 | 91.3 % |

Summary

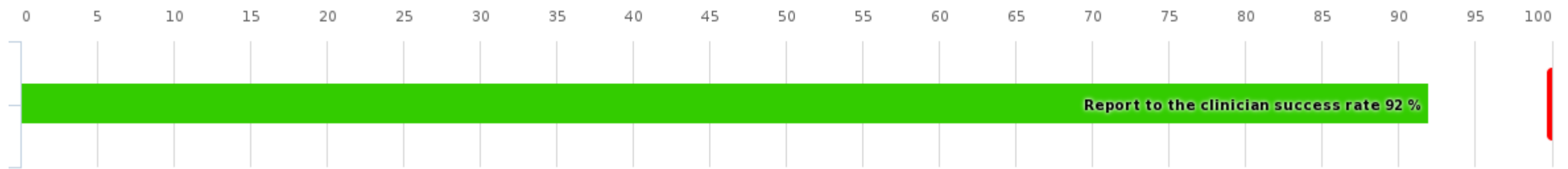
Overall success rate by samples



| Summary | AVR success rate |
|-------------|------------------|
| Sample S001 | 92 % |
| Sample S002 | 98.2 % |
| Average: | 95.1 % |

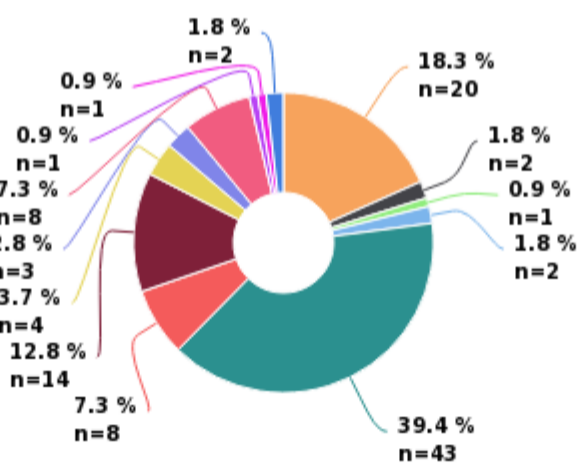
Sample S001 | Mycobacterium intracellulare

Sample S001 success rate



| Sample S001 results | Responded | AVR success rate | Count |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------|
| | Report to the clinician | 92 % | 109 |
| Total: | | 92 % | 109 |

Sample S001 Mycobacterium intracellulare



- Mycobacterium intracellulare
- Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex
- Mycobacterium avium complex
- Mycobacterium chimaera
- Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
- Atypical mycobacteria
- Mycobacterium sp.
- Acid-fast bacilli
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex
- No acid-fast bacilli

REPORT TO THE CLINICIAN

| Finding group | Finding | Finding count | Referred | Not referred | AVR success rate |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | | 109 | | | 92 % |
| | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 20 | 8 | 12 | |
| | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| | Mycobacterium avium complex | 1 | | 1 | |
| | Mycobacterium chimaera | 2 | | 2 | |
| | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 43 | 26 | 17 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 8 | 1 | 7 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 14 | 4 | 10 | |
| | Atypical mycobacteria | 4 | 4 | | |
| | Mycobacterium sp. | 3 | 3 | | |
| | Acid-fast bacilli | 8 | 5 | 3 | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 1 | 1 | | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 1 | 1 | | |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 2 | | 2 | |
| Total: | | 109 | | | 92 % |

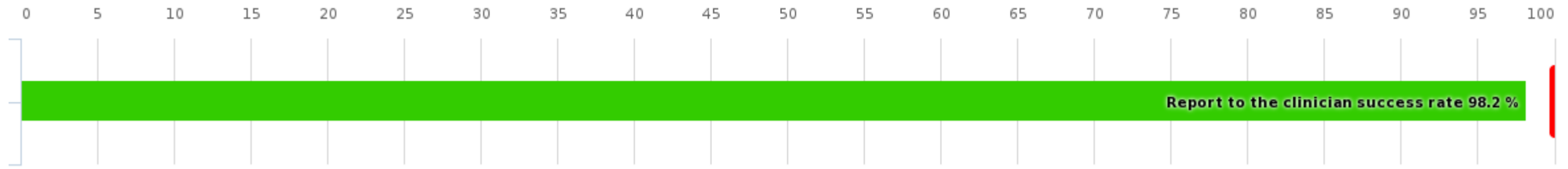
SCORING SUMMARY

| Finding group | Finding | Finding score | Referred | Max score |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|----------|-----------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | | | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 4 | | 4 |

| | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|
| | Mycobacterium avium complex | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium chimaera | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 4 | | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 4 | | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 4 | | 4 |
| | Atypical mycobacteria | 4 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium sp. | 4 | | 4 |
| | Acid-fast bacilli | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 0 | | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 0 | | 4 |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 0 | | 4 |
| Total: | | | | 4 |

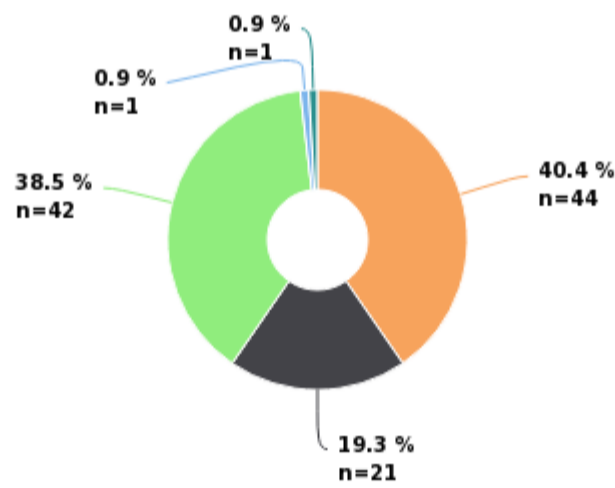
Sample S002 | No acid-fast bacilli

Sample S002 success rate



| Sample S002 results | Responded | AVR success rate | Count |
|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-------|
| | Report to the clinician | 98.2 % | 109 |
| Total: | | 98.2 % | 109 |

Sample S002 No acid-fast bacilli



- No acid-fast bacilli
- Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
- Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis
- Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex

REPORT TO THE CLINICIAN

| Finding group | Finding | Finding count | Referred | Not referred | AVR success rate |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|----------|--------------|------------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | | 109 | | | 98.2 % |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 44 | 1 | 43 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 21 | 7 | 14 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 42 | 2 | 40 | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 1 | 1 | | |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 1 | 1 | | |
| Total: | | 109 | | | 98.2 % |

SCORING SUMMARY

| Finding group | Finding | Finding score | Max score |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|-----------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | | | 4 |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 4 | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 4 | 4 |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 4 | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis | 0 | 4 |
| | Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex | 0 | 4 |
| Total: | | | 4 |

Report Info**PARTICIPANTS**

Altogether 115 laboratories from 14 countries participated in this EQA round.

REPORT INFO

On the front page you can see summaries of overall success rate and sample specific success rates which have been calculated from the scores. The reported results and the scores are presented in the same report but in separate tables.

In general, the expected results are marked with green color. Accepted results may also be indicated with yellow color. Laboratory's own results are indicated with a black radio button . In the participant specific report there is also a laboratory specific scoring table for each sample, where you can find your own result and the scores given.

If you have not reported results you will get a note: "You have not responded in time, only global report is available".

For information on report interpretation and performance evaluation, please see the "EQAS Interpretation guidelines" in LabScala User instructions. In case you have any questions regarding the reports, please contact the EQA Coordinator.

SCORING

The results in the "Report to the clinician" part can be scored when at least 60% of the participants have reported the correct/expected result and when there are at least three reported results. The report includes a sample specific scoring summary.

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.

The following general rules are applied:

4 points is reached by reporting the expected result

1-3 points is given to results that are partly correct/insufficient regarding the expected finding

0 points is given for an incorrect/false result

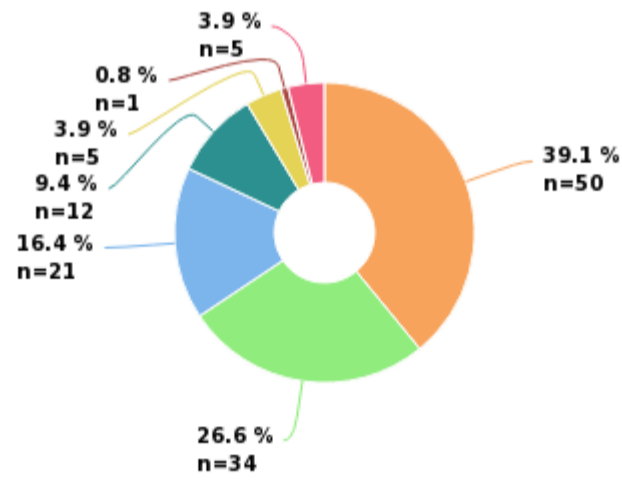
GLOBAL REPORT

| | No of participants | No of responded participants | Response percentage |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mycobacterial culture and stain, March, 1-2023 | 92 | 86 | 93.5 % |
| Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection, March, 1-2023 | 23 | 21 | 91.3 % |

Sample S001 | Mycobacterium intracellulare

| Sample S001 results | Responded | Count |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------|
| | Culture media | 128 |
| | Identification tests: NAT | 92 |
| | Identification tests: Other | 56 |
| | Identification tests: MALDI-TOF | 8 |
| | Total: | 284 |

Sample S001 Culture media, Mycobacterium intracellulare

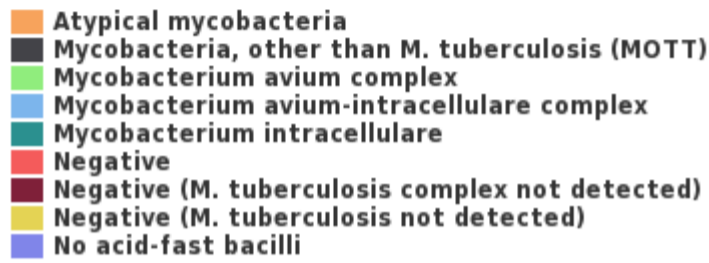
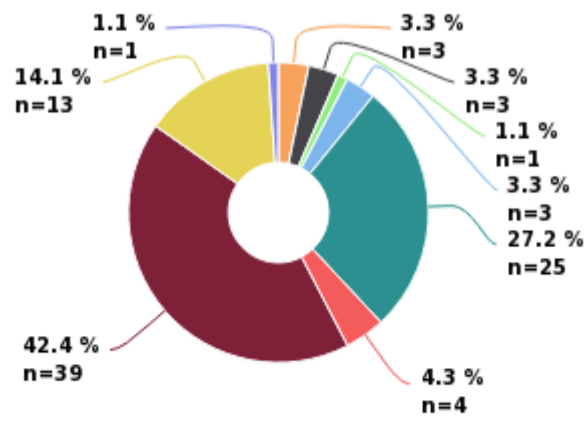


- Growth after 1 week
- Growth after 2 weeks
- Growth after 3 weeks
- Growth after 4 weeks
- Growth after 5 weeks
- Growth after 8 weeks
- No growth

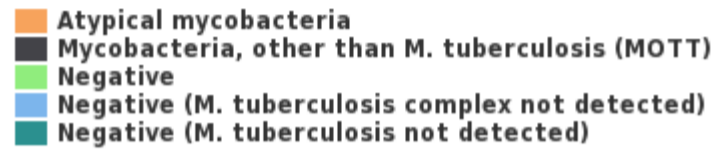
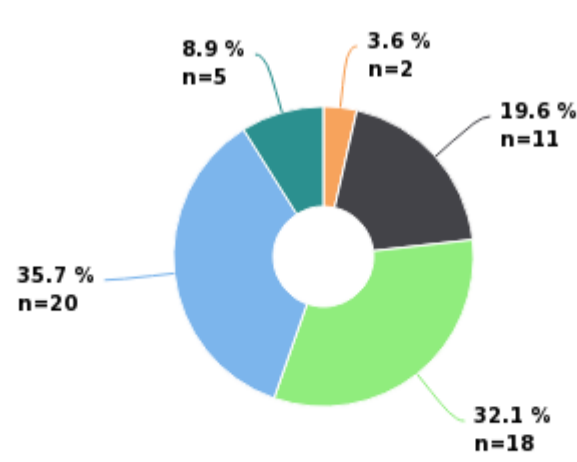
CULTURE MEDIA

| Finding group | Method | Growth after 1 week | Growth after 2 weeks | Growth after 3 weeks | Growth after 4 weeks | Growth after 5 weeks | Growth after 8 weeks | No growth | Total: |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | | | | | | | | | 128 |
| | BacT/ALERT MP (bioMerieux) | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Bactec MGIT (BD) | 36 | 1 | 2 | - | - | - | 2 | 41 |
| | Bactec Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials (BD) | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Coletsos medium | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | - | 2 | 12 |
| | Finlayson medium | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen | 10 | 28 | 15 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 66 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen+pyruvic acid | - | 1 | - | 1 | 1 | - | - | 3 |
| | MiddleBrooks | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Stonebrink medium | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| | VersaTREK Myco medium | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Total: | 50 | 34 | 21 | 12 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 128 |

Sample S001 Identification tests:
NAT, Mycobacterium intracellulare



Sample S001 Identification tests:
Other, Mycobacterium intracellulare



IDENTIFICATION TESTS: NAT

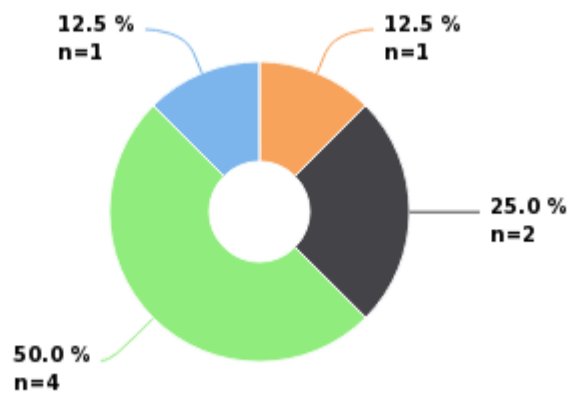
| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count | |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|----|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | BD MAX MDR-TB panel (BD) | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 | |
| | | GenoType MTBC (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 1 |
| | | GenoType MTBDRplus 2.0 (Hain Lifescience) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | GenoType mycobacterium AS (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | | GenoType mycobacterium CM (Hain Lifescience) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacterium avium complex | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 2 |
| | | | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 13 |
| | | GenoType NTM-DR (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 6 |
| | In-house hsp65 gene sequencing | | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | 1 |
| | | | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 4 |
| | | In-house PCR | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 1 |
| | | MDR/MTB ELITe MGB Kit (ELITechGroup) | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| | | Seegene Anyplex MTB/NTM Real-time Detection | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | Xpert MTB/RIF (Cepheid) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | | | Negative | 1 |
| | | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 6 |
| | | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 3 |
| | | Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra (Cepheid) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | Negative | 2 | | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 31 | | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 10 | | |
| | No acid-fast bacilli | 1 | | |
| Total: | | | 92 | |

IDENTIFICATION TESTS: OTHER

| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count | |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | BD MGIT TBc Identification test (BD) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 | |
| | | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 | |
| | | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 5 | |
| | | In-house Nitrate test | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| | | SD BIOLINE TB Ag MPT64 (SD) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 7 | |
| | | Negative | 15 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 13 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 3 | |
| | TB MPT 64 Ag test (ubio Biotechnology Systems) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 2 | |
| | | Negative | 2 | |
| | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 2 | | |

| | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|---|----|
| | TBCheck MPT64 (Hain Lifescience) | Mycobacteria, other than M. tuberculosis (MOTT) | 1 |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| Total: | | | 56 |

Sample S001 Identification tests:
MALDI-TOF, Mycobacterium
intracellulare



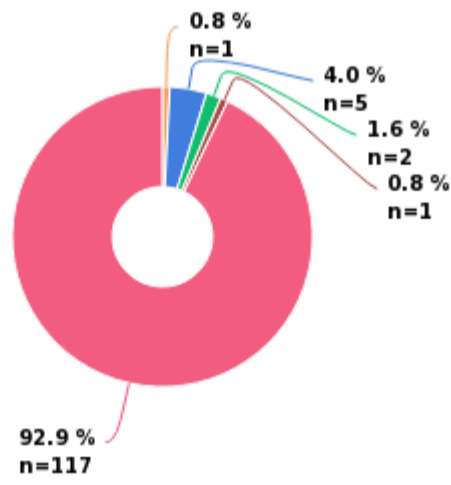
IDENTIFICATION TESTS: MALDI-TOF

| Finding group | Method | Result | Score / Probability % | Score / Probability % count |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mycobacterium intracellulare | MALDI Biotyper (Bruker) | Mycobacterium avium-intracellulare complex | ≥2 | 1 |
| | | Mycobacterium chimaera | ≥2 | 2 |
| | | Mycobacterium intracellulare | ≥2 | 1 |
| | | | ≥1.7..<2 | 1 |
| | | Negative | N/A | 1 |
| | VITEK MS (bioMérieux) | Mycobacterium intracellulare | 99,9 % | 1 |
| | | | 99,5 % | 1 |
| Total: | | | | 8 |

Sample S002 | No acid-fast bacilli

| Sample S002 results | Responded | Count |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | Culture media | 126 |
| | Identification tests: NAT | 58 |
| | Identification tests: Other | 4 |
| | Total: | 188 |

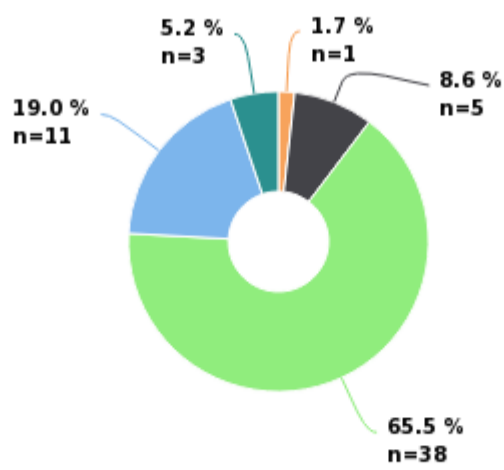
Sample S002 Culture media, No acid-fast bacilli



CULTURE MEDIA

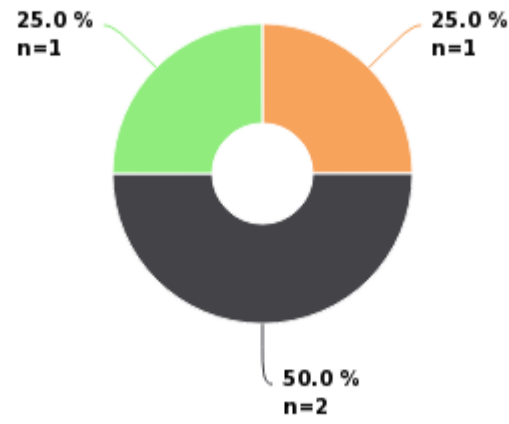
| Finding group | Method | Growth after 1 week | Growth after 6 weeks | Growth after 7 weeks | Growth after 8 weeks | No growth | Total: |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | | | | | | | 126 |
| | BacT/ALERT MP (bioMerieux) | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Bactec MGIT (BD) | 1 | - | - | - | 38 | 39 |
| | Bactec Myco/F Lytic Culture Vials (BD) | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Coletsos medium | - | - | - | - | 11 | 11 |
| | Finlayson medium | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen | - | 4 | 1 | 1 | 61 | 67 |
| | Löwenstein-Jensen+pyruvic acid | - | - | - | - | 3 | 3 |
| | MiddleBrooks | - | 1 | - | - | - | 1 |
| | Stonebrink medium | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| | VersaTREK Myco medium | - | - | - | - | 1 | 1 |
| | Total: | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 117 | 126 |

Sample S002 Identification tests:
NAT, No acid-fast bacilli



■ Atypical mycobacteria
■ Negative
■ Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)
■ Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected)
■ No acid-fast bacilli

Sample S002 Identification tests:
Other, No acid-fast bacilli



■ Atypical mycobacteria
■ Negative
■ Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected)

IDENTIFICATION TESTS: NAT

| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count | |
|----------------------|---|---|----------------------|----|
| No acid-fast bacilli | BD MAX MDR-TB panel (BD) | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 | |
| | GenoType MTBDRplus 2.0 (Hain Lifescience) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 | |
| | | No acid-fast bacilli | 2 | |
| | Seegene Anyplex MTB/NTM Real-time Detection | Negative | 1 | |
| | Xpert MTB/RIF (Cepheid) | Negative | 1 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 6 | |
| | Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra (Cepheid) | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 2 | |
| | | Negative | 2 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 31 | |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis not detected) | 9 | |
| | Total: | | No acid-fast bacilli | 1 |
| | | | | 58 |

IDENTIFICATION TESTS: OTHER

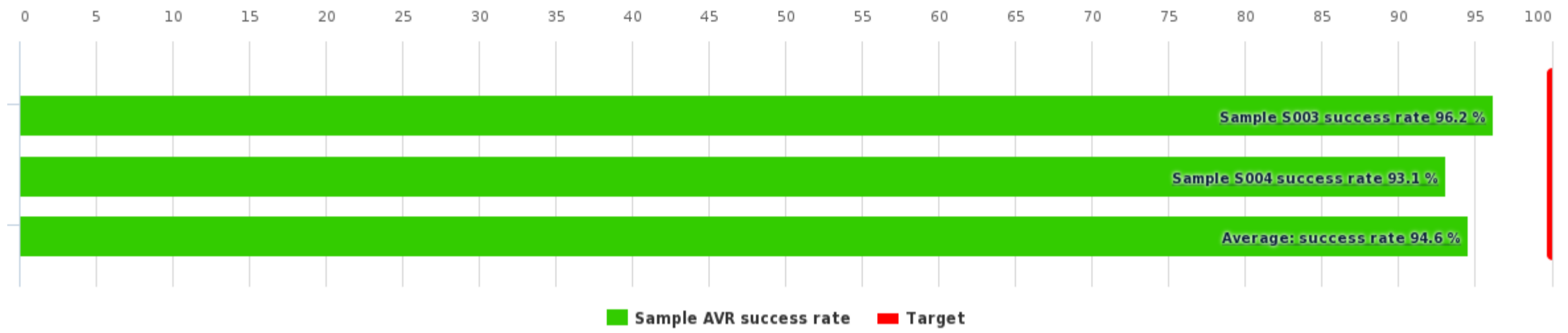
| Finding group | Method | Result | Result count |
|----------------------|--|---|--------------|
| No acid-fast bacilli | SD BIOLINE TB Ag MPT64 (SD) | Atypical mycobacteria | 1 |
| | | Negative | 1 |
| | | Negative (M. tuberculosis complex not detected) | 1 |
| | TB MPT 64 Ag test (ubio Biotechnology Systems) | Negative | 1 |
| Total: | | | 4 |

GLOBAL REPORT

| | No of participants | No of responded participants | Response percentage |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Mycobacterial culture and stain, March, 1-2023 | 92 | 90 | 97.8 % |
| Mycobacterial stain, March, 1-2023 | 37 | 35 | 94.6 % |

Summary

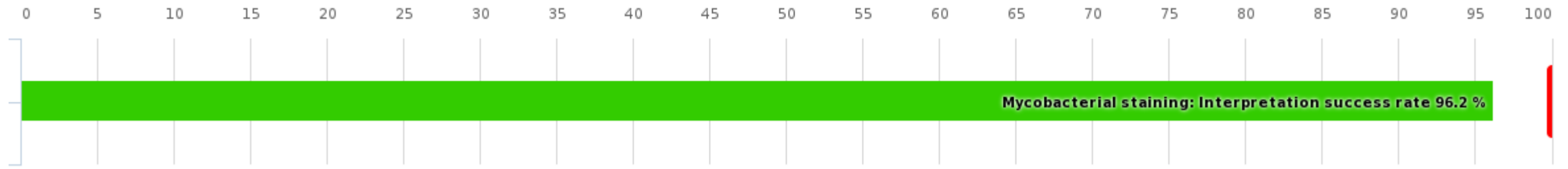
Overall success rate by samples



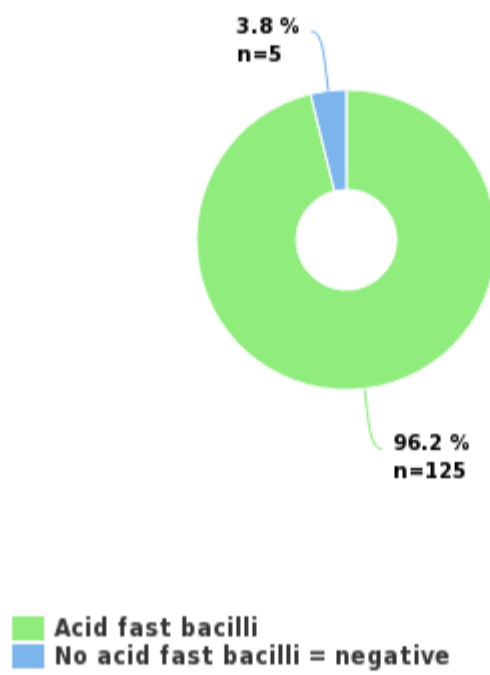
| Summary | AVR success rate |
|-------------|------------------|
| Sample S003 | 96.2 % |
| Sample S004 | 93.1 % |
| Average: | 94.6 % |

Sample S003 | Positive / AFB, +++

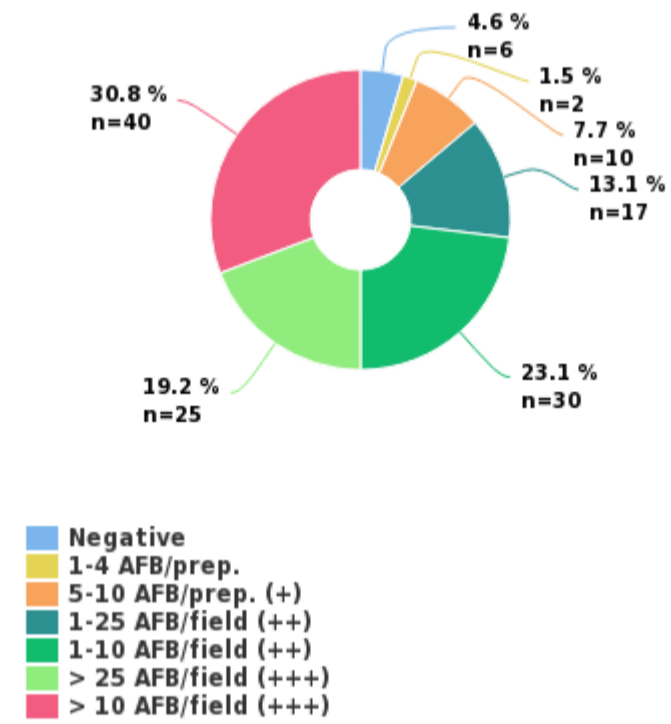
Sample S003 success rate



Sample S003 Mycobacterial staining: Interpretation



Sample S003 Mycobacterial staining: Method



MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: INTERPRETATION

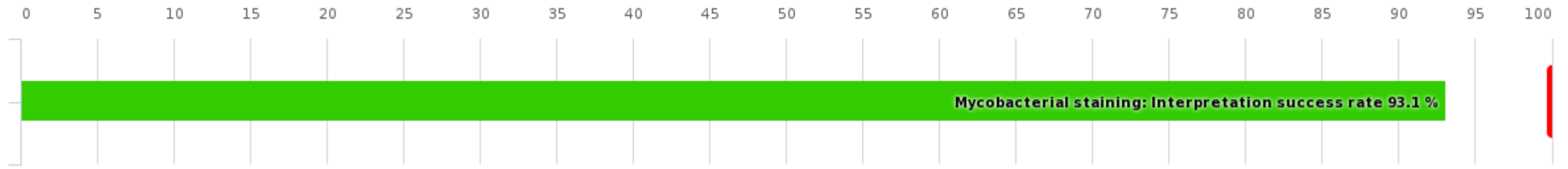
| Interpretation | Interpretation count | AVR success rate | Interpretation Score |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Acid fast bacilli | 125 | 100 % | 2 |
| No acid fast bacilli = negative | 5 | 0 % | 0 |
| Total: | 130 | 96.2 % | |

MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: METHOD

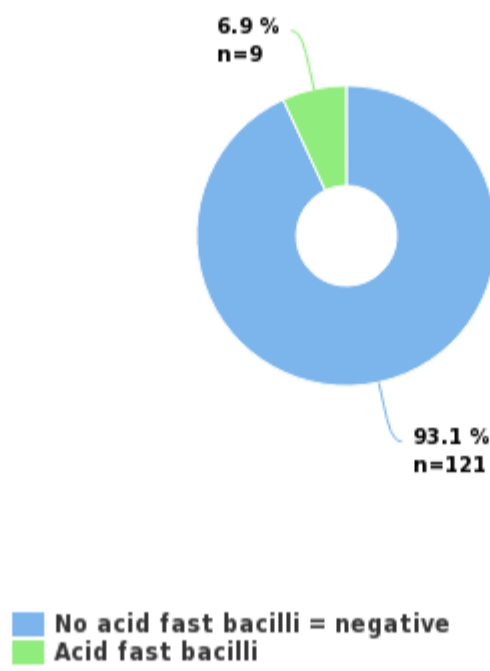
| Method | Negative | 1-4 AFB/prep. | 5-10 AFB/prep. (+) | 1-25 AFB/field (++) | 1-10 AFB/field (++) | > 25 AFB/field (+++) | > 10 AFB/field (+++) | Total: |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Acridine orange | - | - | - | 1 | - | 2 | - | 3 |
| Auramine | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 7 | 33 |
| Auramine-Rodamine | - | - | - | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| Kinyoun | - | - | 3 | 2 | 3 | - | 1 | 9 |
| Tan-Thiam-Hok | - | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Ziehl-Neelsen | 4 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 22 | 5 | 31 | 75 |
| Total: | 6 | 2 | 10 | 17 | 30 | 25 | 40 | 130 |

Sample S004 | No acid-fast bacilli

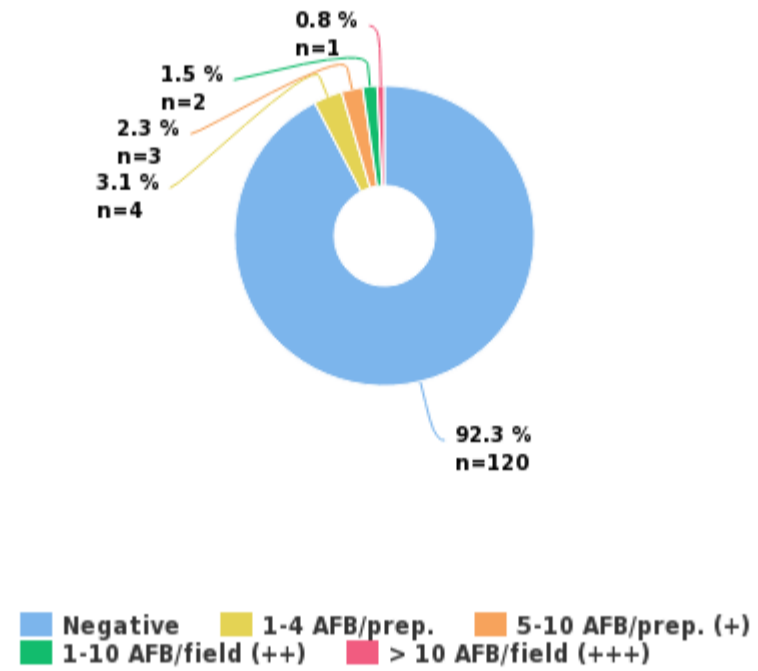
Sample S004 success rate



Sample S004 Mycobacterial staining: Interpretation



Sample S004 Mycobacterial staining: Method



MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: INTERPRETATION

| Interpretation | Interpretation count | AVR success rate | Interpretation Score |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| No acid fast bacilli = negative | 121 | 100 % | 2 |
| Acid fast bacilli | 9 | 0 % | 0 |
| Total: | 130 | 93.1 % | |

MYCOBACTERIAL STAINING: METHOD

| Method | Negative | 1-4 AFB/prep. | 5-10 AFB/prep. (+) | 1-10 AFB/field (++) | > 10 AFB/field (+++) | Total: |
|-------------------|----------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Acridine orange | 3 | - | - | - | - | 3 |
| Auramine | 37 | 1 | - | - | - | 38 |
| Auramine-Rodamine | 7 | - | - | - | - | 7 |
| Kinyoun | 8 | - | - | 1 | - | 9 |
| Tan-Thiam-Hok | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Ziehl-Neelsen | 64 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 72 |
| Total: | 120 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 130 |

Report Info**PARTICIPANTS**

Altogether 127 laboratories from 14 countries participated in this EQA round.

REPORT INFO

On the front page you can see a summary of the overall average success rate and sample specific success rates which have been calculated from the scores.

In general, the expected results are marked with green color. Accepted results may also be indicated with yellow color. Laboratory's own results are indicated with a black radio button . In the participant specific report there is also a laboratory specific scoring table for each sample, where you can find your own result and the scores given..

If you have not reported results, you will get a note: "You have not responded in time, only global report is available."

For information on report interpretation and performance evaluation, please see the "EQAS Interpretation guidelines" in LabScala User instructions. In case you have any questions regarding the reports, please contact the EQA Coordinator.

SCORING

The results in the "Interpretation" part can be scored when at least 60% of the participants have reported the correct/expected result and when there are at least three reported results.

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.

The following general rules are applied:

2 points is reached by reporting the expected correct result

0 points is given for an incorrect/false result

External Quality Assessment Scheme

Mycobacterial culture and stain (5220) Mycobacterial nucleic acid detection (5221) Mycobacterial stain (5240) Rounds 1, 2023

Specimens

The round included two lyophilized samples and/or two smears on slides. The sample lots were tested in an accredited Finnish reference laboratory and the results were consistent with the certificates provided by the sample manufacturer. Based on the quality controls conducted by the sample material manufacturer, testing and the results obtained in the round, the sample lots are to be considered as homogeneous, stable and suitable for external quality assessment. The materials were sent without temperature control packaging.

The use of samples only for external quality assessment. The consent of Labquality must be requested for the use of the microbial strains contained in the samples for other purposes.

The content of the samples was as follows:

Sample S001 (LQ760923011)
Mycobacterium intracellulare N000062
Background information: simulated sputum

Sample S002 (LQ760923012)
No acid-fast bacilli
Background information: simulated sputum

Sample S003 (LQ760923013)
Positive / AFB, +++

Sample S004 (LQ760923014)
No acid-fast bacilli

Test method: Reference laboratory stained the slides with the direct auramin method.

Report info

Please see the description of the data analysis on the last page of the laboratory-specific reports and global reports. It is important to read the Final report first, because it contains important information of the samples and results in each round.

Comments - Expert

This round consisted of *Mycobacterium intracellulare* in sample S001 and a negative sample S002. Slide S003 was strong positive and slide S004 was negative.

Staining

The average success rate for the positive slide S003 was 96.2% with 5/130 false negative results, and for the negative slide S004 the success rate was 93.1% with 9/130 false positive results, of which 4 were weak positives (1-4 cells/slide). Three laboratories had possibly mixed up the samples and reported crosswise correct results. Additionally, two laboratories had discrepancies between parallel initial results and/or final reports.

2023-05-09

FINAL REPORT

Product no. 5220, 5221, 5240

Subcontracting: Sample testing

| | |
|------------------|------------|
| Samples sent | 2023-02-28 |
| Round closed | 2023-04-26 |
| Expected results | 2023-04-28 |
| Final report | 2023-05-09 |

Request for correction

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.

Authorized by

EQA Coordinator
Jaana Paakkanen
jaana.paakkanen@labquality.fi

Expert

Microbiologist, Ph.D, Docent
Silja Mentula,
National Institute for Health
and Welfare, Finland

Labquality Oy

Kumpulantie 15
FI-00520 HELSINKI
Finland

Tel. + 358 9 8566 8200
Fax + 358 9 8566 8280

info@labquality.fi
www.labquality.com



Culture and identification

Sample S001

The average success rate for sample S001 was 92% with 25/109 (23%) species level identifications, 50 NTM identifications, TB was ruled out by 22 participants, 8 reported acid-fast bacilli, 2 false TB findings and 2 false negative results. All species in the *avium-intracellulare* complex were accepted as correct result (*M. avium*, *M. intracellulare*, *M. chimaera*). Species level identification was performed by Hain Genotype in 22, by In-house PCR / sequencing in 6 and by MALDI-TOF in 8 laboratories. Some of the laboratories used multiple methods. "No growth" was reported by 5 laboratories. There were altogether 92 nucleic acid amplification test results, 55 immunologic test results, 8 MALDI-TOF results and 1 nitrate result. Culture was performed by 82 laboratories.

One laboratory reported "no acid-fast bacilli" after a negative result from TB detection test, hence, the correct reporting option would have been "negative (*M. tuberculosis* not detected)". There were also two reporting errors with correct initial TB negative result but false final TB positive report.

Sample S002

The average success rate for the negative sample S002 was 98.2% with TB ruled out by 63 participants, 44 reported no acid-fast bacilli and 2/109 reported false TB findings. Growth was reported by 5 laboratories.

Conclusions

The round went well though the cell counts in staining scattered somewhat and there were some reporting errors.

Exceptions in scoring

No exceptions.

End of report

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