ACL Laboratories
Every Sample is a Life™

Test Bulletin

April 2017

Did You Know...

Why ACL Uses Urine Preservative Tubes

The red/yellow top tubes contain a preservative that prevents the degeneration of cellular elements and the overgrowth of bacteria without interfering with testing methods. These preservative tubes extend the stability of the sample for urinalysis testing to 48 hours.

According to the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) guidelines, "Urine samples should be tested within 2 hours of collection. As urine ages, cellular elements (WBC, RBC, casts) disintegrate, bacteria multiply, and the pH rises. If a delay in laboratory analysis is inevitable, the samples must be placed in a urine preservative tube." Although refrigeration reduces cell degradation and bacterial growth, it may cause urate or phosphate crystals to develop which can obscure recognition of cellular and other clinically significant elements in microscopic examination.

The Microbiology culture gray top tubes should always be used for requests for a culture. These tubes contain a preservative that maintains samples for **up to 48 hours without refrigeration.** In addition, the lyophilized preservative in the tubes helps to prevent overgrowth or false positives, without causing toxicity to existing pathogens. This will aid the microbiology lab in preparing plates without overgrowth.

For additional information regarding specimen collection requirements, visit ACL Laboratories Directory of Services at http://www.acllaboratories.com/test-catalog/.

Now... patients can check Wisconsin Patient Service Center (PSC) locations for current wait times!

ACL Laboratories has added the convenience of knowing when a patient's lab visit in Wisconsin will best fit into their personal schedule. By simply looking at the PSC site's current wait time available online at http://www.acllaboratories.com/locations/service-centers/, patients can determine if the wait time is too long, and they can pursue going to a different site or waiting until later that day. No one likes to get a surprise of a long wait time at a lab—this added feature in Wisconsin will prevent that from happening! Tracking this information at Wisconsin's Aurora's West Allis Medical Center PSC began on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 and will expand to additional Wisconsin PSC locations in the near future. Please watch for future communications for additional ACL access points where this functionality will be implemented.

Several Illinois PSC locations have had this feature in place for a while. Please visit http://www.acllaboratories.com/locations/service-centers/ for current Illinois PSC wait times.

ACL's vision is for patients to be 100% satisfied!

- Safe, convenient sign-in
- HIPAA compliant
- Online wait times posted real time

Malaria Antibody, IgG (MALAB) Inactivation

Effective immediately, Malaria Antibody, IgG (Test Order Code MALAB) testing has been discontinued by Cleveland Clinic Laboratories. The blood smear technique (MALSM) is still considered the gold standard, and with advances, PCR technology can be utilized to confirm speciation. Serology testing does not achieve this. MALAB will remain orderable until Wednesday, May 24 2017, when the test code will be inactivated.

Contact ACL Client Services at 1.800.877.7016 for additional information.

ACL Laboratories Changes Antifungal Breakpoints

Effective Wednesday, April 19, 2017, ACL Laboratories will be converting to 2012 Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) recommendations for antifungal breakpoints.

Previous recommendations were applied to all *Candida species*. New recommendations are limited to the following yeast isolates: *Candida albicans, Candida glabrata, Candida tropicalis, Candida krusei, Candida parapsilosis,* and *Candida guilliermondii*.

Antifungal Agent	Species	Current Breakpoint MIC Range (µg/mL)					New Breakpoint MIC Range (µg/mL)			
		S	SDD	I	R	NONS	S	SDD	I	R
Anidulafungin	C. albicans	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. glabrata	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.12	-	0.25	≥0.5
	C. tropicalis	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. krusei	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. parapsilosis	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤2	-	4	≥8
	C. guilliermondii	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤2	-	4	≥8
Caspofungin	C. albicans	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. glabrata	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.12	-	0.25	≥0.5
	C. tropicalis	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. krusei	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. parapsilosis	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤2	-	4	≥8
	C. guilliermondii	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤2	-	4	≥8
Micafungin	C. albicans	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. glabrata	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.06	-	0.12	≥0.25
	C. tropicalis	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. krusei	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤0.25	-	0.5	≥1
	C. parapsilosis	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤2	-	4	≥8
	C. guilliermondii	≤2	-	-	-	>2	≤2	-	4	≥8
Fluconazole	C. albicans	≤8	16-32	-	≥64	-	≤2	4	-	≥8
	C. glabrata	≤8	16-32	-	≥64	-	-	≤32	-	≥64
	C. krusei	≤8	16-32	-	≥64	-	-	-	-	-
	C. parapsilosis	≤8	16-32	-	≥64	-	≤2	4	-	≥8
	C. tropicalis	≤8	16-32	-	≥64	-	≤2	4	-	≥8
Voriconizole	C. albicans	≤1	2	-	≥4	-	≤0.12	0.25-0.5	-	≥1
	C. glabrata	≤1	2	-	≥4	-	-	-	-	-
	C. krusei	≤1	2	-	≥4	-	≤0.5	1	-	≥2
	C. parapsilosis	≤1	2	-	≥4	-	≤0.12	0.25-0.5	-	≥1
	C. tropicalis	≤1	2	-	≥4	-	≤0.12	0.25-0.5	-	≥1

Key: S = Sensitive I = Indeterminate R= Resistant

Breakpoints in red are below the range of current ACL automated antifungal susceptibility testing reagents and will ***not*** be reported routinely. Testing with these yeast/antifungal combinations may be performed at a reference laboratory, if clinically indicated.