

NEW INSTRUCTIONS

PARTICIPANT INSTRUCTIONS CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY - CYCLE 46

Expiry date: 2021-12

Please check your kit upon arrival and call Thistle immediately if there are any problems with your kit or samples. We will advise you on the correct protocol to follow.

It is important to read and understand the new instructions as the lyophilised organisms are no longer presented in a KWIK-STIX format.

Introduction:

It is important to read and understand this document. If you have any queries please contact Thistle QA immediately for assistance.

Important Information:

These devices contain viable organisms that may, under certain circumstances, produce disease. Proper techniques must be employed to avoid exposure and contact with any organism growth.

The microbiology lab must be equipped, and have the facilities to receive, process, maintain, store and dispose of biohazard material. The microbiology laboratory personnel using these devices must be trained, experienced and demonstrate proficiency in processing, maintaining, storing and disposing of biohazard material. Please handle the samples as patient samples.

We request that you return results on all the samples, even if they do not grow.

In the case of any discrepancy regarding the specimen your lab has received, please contact Thistle QA immediately so that an investigation can be done or the specimen number can be recalled for assessment by appropriate experts / suppliers.

Characteristics:

10ml vial containing lyophilised microorganism

Please check your kit upon arrival and call Thistle immediately if there are any problems with your kit.

Factors that could influence the testing of the sample:

Store and transport the vial at 2 - 8°C

Stored as directed, the lyophilized micro-organism preparation will retain, until the expiration date stated above, its specifications and performance within the stated limits.

Preparation:

1. A suitable microbiological diluent must be used to resuscitate the organism.
Preferred diluents: Maximum Recovery diluent, Saline or distilled water
2. Keep the diluent at room-temperature before use.
3. Add a volume of 1ml diluent to the vial.
4. Wait 15 minutes to allow the organism to resuscitate fully.
5. Heavily saturate a swab with the hydrated material and transfer the material to an appropriate, non-selective, nutrient or enriched agar medium.

NEW INSTRUCTIONS

- Inoculate the primary culture plate(s) by gently rolling the swab over one-third of the plate.
- Using the same swab or a sterile loop, repeatedly streak through the inoculated area and then continue to streak the remainder of the agar surface for isolation.
- IMMEDIATELY** incubate the inoculated media at appropriate temperature and conditions.

Reporting:

- Organism ID:** Indicate the genus and the species with as much detail as you feel necessary. Also indicate if you normally refer the organism to a central laboratory for further identification so that we can score accordingly. **If you have not completely identified the organism, but have followed your lab protocol, please tick the appropriate box.**
- Sensitivity:** Report only the antibiotic sensitivity on organisms **observed from the plate and reported to the doctor as per lab protocol. If results are not reported to the doctor indicate by ticking on the not reported column of the antibiotic table on the result form.**

Safety:

These products are for in-vitro use only.

The lyophilised microorganism and subsequent growth of these micro-organisms on culture media, are considered to be Biohazardous material.

Return of Results:

Each of the samples has a number printed on the label. We recommend analysis dates as shown below. Please send your results - **at the latest 22:00** - on the final cut-off dates given below. **No late submissions will be accepted.** If the recommended analysis date does not allow you to get results to us on time, please analyse earlier. Use the correct dates for the sample numbers in the kit sent to your laboratory. If in doubt, please contact Thistle immediately for assistance.

Additional Notes:

Website submission is not available for entry, please fax or email results to Thistle QA.

The reports will be posted / e-mailed within **7 to 10 working days after the FINAL** cut-off date.

Collusion and/or falsification of EQA results are not good accreditation practice.

Return Dates for Results:

<u>Sample No:</u>	<u>Analysis Dates:</u>	<u>Final Cut-off Dates:</u>
1	22 April 2019	29 April 2019
2	20 May 2019	27 May 2019
3	17 June 2019	24 June 2019
4	22 July 2019	29 July 2019
5	19 August 2019	26 August 2019
6	23 September 2019	30 September 2019