



UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations Quarterly Report for partner organisations (Autumn Update) October 2018

UK SMI contents

1. Priorities and Programme of Work

Following agreement at both the UK SMI Working Groups, a trial will be undertaken using the UK SMI B2: Investigation of bacterial eye infections document as a basis for a more syndromic and cohesive cross discipline approach.

The Test Procedures are nearing completion. The last set of test procedures will be reviewed before the end of the year and hopefully re-issued before May 2019.

2. Website

The top five documents receiving the most web page views since the last quarterly report are:

[B 41: Investigation of urine](#)

[B 30: Investigation of faecal specimens for enteric pathogens](#)

[B 37: Investigation of blood cultures \(for organisms other than *Mycobacterium* species\)](#)

[B 28: Investigation of genital tract and associated specimens](#)

[B 11: Investigation of swabs from skin and superficial soft tissue infections](#)

3. Consultation

All [open consultations](#) can be found on the Gov.uk website.

4. Recently Issued Documents

The following UK SMI documents have been issued since the last quarterly report:

[TP 2: Aesculin hydrolysis test](#)

[TP 5: Bile solubility test](#)

[TP 10: Coagulase test](#)

[TP 12: Deoxyribonuclease test](#)

5. UK SMI Working Group Meetings and Steering Committee

Past Meetings:

Bacteriology Working Group (11 July 2018)

Chairs Strategy Meeting (5 September 2018)

Steering Committee Meeting (12 September 2018)

Abdominal Organ Transplant Fluids Meeting (28 September 2018)

Future meetings:

Virology Working Group (24 October 2018)
Bacteriology Working Group (31 October 2018)
Virology Working Group (16 January 2019)
Bacteriology Working Group (13 February 2019)

Standards Unit Update**6. Information Officer Post**

We have successfully recruited a new Information Officer for the Standards Unit. Ashley Shalloe commenced work with the unit at the end of August 2018.

7. Membership

Mairiead MacLennan representing the SMA has stepped down from the Bacteriology Working Group after a year. We thank her for her excellent contributions in the meetings and wish her luck for the future.

The Scottish Microbiology Association (SMA) is also withdrawing their partnership with the UK SMIs as the Health Protection Scotland will represent Scotland and continue to work closely with the Standards Unit in the development process of UK SMIs. We thank SMA for their excellent contributions over the years.

8. Lloyd's Register Quality Assessment (LRQA) visit – ISO 9001:2015 assessment

The Standards Unit will be having an ISO assessment visit on the 20th November 2018.

National Infection Service (NIS) and PHE updates**9. National Infection Service, PHE - Interim Head for Products and Services**

Julie Russell, Head of Culture Collections at PHE has been appointed as interim Head for Products and Services starting on 1st November 2018.

10. PHE move to Harlow site

The PHE Harlow site preparations are underway before the construction work begins. The Standards unit is currently assessing options for meeting venues in Central London in preparation for the Harlow move.

11. Authors

This document was prepared on behalf of the Steering Committee by the Standards Unit.

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