

MICRO. MATTERS

A Periodic Flyer from Microbiology Laboratory at Doctors Laboratory, Inc.

Is it MRSA?..... Is it VRE?.....Is it GBS?

Microbiology Laboratory frequently receives above and other similar questions from our clients or their representatives.

It will be the goal of this newsletter in present and future issues to provide answers to such questions. We have named it "Micro. Matters", which identifies it as being pertaining to Microbiology specialty, and also subtly emphasizes that it does matter, when it comes to its increasing important role in diagnosing some of the most significant diseases of the modern times.

Having been identified as highly significant Healthcare-Associated Infections or HAI's, detection of Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Vancomycin-Resistant Enterococci (VRE) are regarded as very important events for hospital or nursing home based patients, often requiring isolation.

Similarly, recognition of Group B Streptococcus (GBS) during pregnancy is important so that appropriate, timely precautions can be taken to prevent neonatal meningitis.

Microbiology Laboratory routinely attempts to monitor and flag these events on reports for the benefit of our clients. However, manual flagging of these events may occasionally fail.

In order for our clients and their Staff to readily identify the presence of VRE, MRSA or GBS on a culture report, the following guidelines are provided, where a quick glance at the items shown in **bold** below would identify if an isolate is any of the above. Posting this flyer at strategic locations in your facility may help get your Staff alerted to these events readily and effortlessly.

Additional questions regarding these or any other matters related to Microbiology may be directed to 1-229-671-2252.



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How to tell if an isolate is a MRSA?

If the BOXED, BOLD items below appear together (**STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS**, and **OXACILLIN R**, meaning Resistant), then the isolate is a MRSA.

SUSCEPTIBILITY REPORT:

ISOLATE NO: 1 **STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS**

INTERPRETATION: (S=SUSCEPTIBLE M=MOD.SUSCEPT. I=INTERMEDIATE R=RESISTANT)

ISOLATE NO:	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
AMOX/CLAVUL	R				IMIPENEM	R				CEFTRIAXONE	R			
CEFUROXIME	R				CIPROFLOXACIN	R				GENTAMICIN	S			
LEVOFLOXACIN	I				TETRACYCLINE	S				TRIMETH/SULFA	S			
AMP/SULBACTAM	R				PENICILLIN	R				ERYTHROMYCIN	R			
LINEZOLID	S									RIFAMPIN	S			
					OXACILLIN R									
SYNERCID	S				VANCOMYCIN	S				AZITHROMYCIN	R			

How to tell if an isolate is a VRE?

If the BOXED, BOLD items below appear together (**ENTEROCOCCUS**, and **VANCOMYCIN R**, meaning Resistant), then the isolate is a VRE.

SUSCEPTIBILITY REPORT:

ISOLATE NO: 1 **ENTEROCOCCUS SPECIES**

INTERPRETATION: (S=SUSCEPTIBLE M=MOD.SUSCEPT. I=INTERMEDIATE R=RESISTANT)

ISOLATE NO:	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4
AMPICILLIN	R				CIPROFLOXACIN	R				LEVOFLOXACIN	R			
NITROFURANTOIN	R				TETRACYCLINE	S				PENICILLIN	R			
ERYTHROMYCIN	R				LINEZOLID	I				SYNERCID	S			

VANCOMYCIN R

How to tell if an isolate is a GBS or Group "B" Streptococcus?

If the isolate is identified on the report as **STREPTOCOCCUS AGALACTIAE** then the isolate is a GBS or Group "B" Streptococcus.

SUSCEPTIBILITY REPORT:

ISOLATE NO: 1 **STREPTOCOCCUS AGALACTIAE**