# Update on ASM Survey of QC Failures with Microorganism Identification Systems

Presented to Members of CLIAC by David Sewell, Ph.D. Committee on Professional Affairs ASM Public and Scientific Affairs Board February 8, 2006



- CLIA requires laboratories to test each substrate or reagent in microbial identification panels for positive and negative reactivity with each batch, lot number and shipment
- ASM was asked to collect data on the number of QC failures that occur to assist CLIAC in recommending a policy change regarding the appropriate amount of QC required



#### Survey Instrument General Questions

- Laboratory type (i.e. hospital, public health, commercial, etc)
- Size of laboratory (i.e. culture volume; number of FTEs)
- Laboratory accreditation/certification and board certification of laboratory director
- Educational degrees of laboratory personnel who oversee QC



#### Survey Instrument QC Related Questions

- Type of Micro ID System(s) used by laboratory (survey instrument included a key with a list of seventy-one identification systems)
- Do you perform QC as required by CLIA?
- Number of lots QC tested for each ID System used during January 1, 2004 – October 15, 2005



Survey Instrument QC Related Questions Number of times an ID system failed QC Note organism name and strain that failed QC\* Note biochemical test(s) that failed QC\* Did you ask the manufacturer to replace lot? \*ASM wanted respondents to differentiate between ID system failure and organism failure



**Survey Results** 

Total number sent: 1000
Total number responses received: 309
Total number of useable surveys: 292

Return RateApproximately 30%



Laboratory Type:

- Hospital (private)196
- Hospital (consolidated) 33
- Hospital (government) 21
- Public Health 18



Laboratory Type (con't):

- Independent Reference 15
- Physician Office
- Clinic 3
- Other

3

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**Primary Accreditation** AOA 204 CMS 25 2 JCAHO 47 Other 13



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**Director Certification** 

- ABB 207
- ABCC 1
   ABMM 12
- NA 20
- NBC 18

Other



Academic Degree of QC Coordinator:

12

- BS/BA 187
   MS/MPH/MA 44
- MD/DO 29
- PhD 14

Other



Number of cultures performed/year:

< than or = to 5,000 cultures 43</li>
 5,001 - 10,000 cultures 52
 10,001 - 50,000 cultures 140
 Greater than 50,000 cultures 53



### Number of Full Time Equivalents (FTEs):

Lab Associate	176
	250
BS/BA	24
	1317
MA/MS	98
MD/DO/PhD	90
Other	16



- Majority used 5 or more identification systems in their laboratories (range of 1-13 systems)
- Types of systems used:
  - Gram Positive (15)
  - Gram Negative (20)
  - Neisseria/Haemophilus (5)
  - Anaerobic bacteria (6)
  - Yeasts (6)



Total number of lots tested: 9886
Total number of lot failures: 912
Total number of lot replacements: 7



Of those lots replaced:

- 3 lots had 1 failed test ( 2 Yeast, Anaerobic bacteria)
- 1 lot had 2 failed tests (Anaerobic bacteria)
- 2 lots had 3 failed tests (Gram Positive, Anaerobic bacteria)
- 1 lot had 6 failed tests (Gram Positive)



Replacements by Micro ID System

<u>System</u>	Total Lots Tested	<u>Replaced</u>
Gram Positive	2672	< 1%
Gram Negative	4298	0
Neisseria/Haem	ophilus 898	0
Anaerobic bacte	ria 1014	< 1%
Yeasts	1004	< 1%



Recommendation

Request that the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) use its consensus process to determine the appropriate amount of QC based on survey data



Thank you CLIAC staff who aided ASM in the drafting of the survey instrument, helped with data input/output and who have provided much guidance:

- Rhonda Whalen, CDC
- Nancy Anderson, CDC
- Stacey Cooke, CDC
- Jim Hansfield, CDC
- Glennis Westbrook, CDC
- Carol Bigelow, CDC
- Ryan McCormick, CDC
- Judy Yost, CMS

