



## UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations Quarterly Report for partner organisations (Spring Update) April 2017

This report provides information for the partner organisations supporting the development of UK SMIs and includes updates for the last three months (January 2017 – March 2017).

### 1. Website

The top five documents receiving the most on-going web page hits since the last quarterly report are:

[B 58: Detection of carriage of group B streptococci](#)

[B 41: Investigation of urine](#)

[B 40: Investigation of specimens for Mycobacterium species](#)

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

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

### 2. Priorities and Programme of Work

The safety references for the UK SMI templates are currently under review and the Standards Unit is working with the Colindale library to set up literature search for this review. Members are encouraged to inform or send in any new updated guidelines to the Standards Unit to assist the review of the safety references.

The review of the UK SMI *ID1: Introduction to the preliminary identification of medically important bacteria and fungi from culture* document is nearing completion and it is currently with the editor.

### 3. UK SMI Working Group Meetings and Steering Committee

Please contact the Standards Unit to request information regarding Working Group or Steering Committee meetings.

#### Past Meetings:

Virology Working Group (18 January 2017)

Bacteriology Working Group (8 February 2017)

Steering Committee (8 March 2017)

#### Future meetings:

National User Manual Template (12 April 2017)

Chairs Strategy Meeting (17 May 2017)

Virology Working Group (7 June 2017)

Bacteriology Working Group and (5 July 2017)

#### **4. Consultation**

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

#### **5. Recently Issued Documents**

The following documents have been issued since the last quarterly report: [Q1: Evaluations, validations and verifications of diagnostic tests](#) has been reviewed, reorganised and retitled in order to ensure ease of use within the typical work flows of a routine clinical microbiology laboratory.

Diagrams and tables have been added to simplify terminologies used in the document as well as information on uncertainty of measurement.

[B31: Investigation of specimens other than blood for parasites](#) has been reviewed and the scope of the document updated to include current molecular and traditional methods used for detection of parasites.

#### **6. User Manual Modules**

The User Manual modules, Conjunctivitis and Urine, have been updated after the first round of wide consultation. The modules are currently open for second round of consultation and will be discussed at the next User Manual Meeting before being reissued.

#### **7. Membership**

Dr Timothy Collyns has stepped down from the Bacteriology Working Group after eleven years as he has taken on a new role as Lead Infection Control Doctor in Leeds. The Chair of the Bacteriology Working Group thanked him for his contributions over the years in the work of the UK SMIs. Members wished him well in his new job role.

MacLennan has been nominated by Scottish Microbiology Association (SMA) to sit on the Bacteriology Working Group.

#### **8. UKAS Representative**

UKAS has nominated Mark Prescott to work with the Standards Unit on relevant UK SMIs. Mark visited the Standards Unit on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 to find out more about what the UK SMIs do. He was delighted with the work that is done and he is looking forward to working with the unit on any relevant documents as they come under review.

#### **9. Lay Representation**

Jennifer Crockford, Lay Representative on the Bacteriology Working Group will be stepping down from the group after her two years' tenure. Her last meeting is on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017. She has contributed immensely to the work of the UK SMIs. We wish her well in her new adventures.

#### **10. Authors**

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

For any further information please contact:

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