



Microbiology News

Jan 2018

Dear Colleague

Happy New Year! We have decided to write an annual newsletter to our users to keep them updated of any changes in the laboratory, in particular, around UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) and EUCAST (European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing)



EUCAST (European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing)

This is a European Committee to standardise susceptibility testing. Most laboratories in the country have moved to using this method because it provides consistency, reliability and accuracy. There are some antibiotic/bacteria combinations that are not supported by EUCAST, either because the data is not available to determine zone sizes on susceptibility plates or because EUCAST is still collating the data. The full list of these combinations is available on our website but you might see a change in some reports <http://www.exeterlaboratory.com/antimicrobial-susceptibility-testing/>



Community Hospitals and Liaison with General Practice



We are pleased to report that we have been given some additional funding to support the work of primary care. This is largely to ensure Infection Control and Prevention and Antimicrobial Stewardship are being used to their full potential in community hospitals. But we are hoping to extend this to improve our liaison with general practice. We will be in contact with practice managers to arrange suitable times for a lunchtime talk, and would welcome any thoughts or ideas from GPs about what you would like to hear about

UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service)

We have recently undergone an inspection by UKAS to the European Standards ISO15189. We would like to inform you that we have been accredited to this new more stringent standard and will continue working towards improving our service

Comms



1. Website
www.exeterlaboratory.com
2. Email service for non-urgent enquires. We aim to answer the same day unless we receive the email late in the afternoon
rde-tr.MicroConsultants@nhs.net
3. Telephone number - clinical advice
01392 402962
4. PHE Website:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/primary-care-guidance-diagnosing-and-managing-infections>

Finally...

Please contact us to discuss any aspects of the service that you think we could improve upon or that you think we are performing particularly well on! Contact me by email rde-tr.MicroConsultants@nhs.net or telephone 01392 402962

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