



UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations Quarterly Report for partner organisations (Spring Update) April 2018

This report provides information for the partner organisations supporting the development of UK SMIs and includes updates for the last three months (January 2018 - March 2018).

1. Priorities and Programme of Work

Following agreement at both the UK SMI Working Groups and the UK SMI Steering Committee, UK SMIs are continuing to move towards a more syndromic and cohesive cross discipline approach. Other UK SMIs will continue to be reviewed in the existing format while this is being tested but the contents will gradually move to be more Syndromic in its presentation.

The Test Procedures are due to be reviewed this year and there is already considerable progress on their review and it is hoped that by the end of the year, these test procedures would have all been completed and nearing issue.

2. Development of new UK SMI document, B62 - Abdominal Transport Fluid Testing

It has been agreed that this new UK SMI document will be developed to assist laboratories with their testing and the reporting of results in this specialist area. It is hoped that this work will be concluded before the end of the year. There will be extensive collaboration with experts in this subject area during this documents development.

3. National Infection Service (NIS) Structure, Public Health England

The implementation of the new organisation structure commenced on the 10th April. The aim of the new structure is to work towards developing overall infection strategy for PHE, and delivering the extensive cooperation between laboratories and the other parts of NIS that will be essential for a successfully reconfigured NIS.

4. Membership

New members

Dr Sahar Musaad has been nominated by Royal College of Pathologists to sit on the Bacteriology Working Group.

Dr Tanya Curran has been nominated by the Northern Ireland Microbiology Forum and Audit Group to sit on the Bacteriology Working Group.

Drs Lim Jones (representing Public Health Wales), Dr Martin Connor (representing Scottish Microbiology and Virology Network) and Dr Michael Weinbren (representing Royal College of Pathologists) have been nominated by their respective organisations to sit on the UK SMI Steering Committee.

Leaving members

Dr Gillian Orange (representing both Scottish Microbiology and Virology Network and Scottish Microbiology Association) and Dr Matthew Donati (representing UK Clinical Virology Network) have stepped down as members from the Virology Working Group and Steering Committee

respectively. The Chair of the Steering Committee thanked them for their positive contributions over the years in the work of the UK SMIs and wished them well for the future.

5. Website

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

[B 41: Investigation of urine](#)

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

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

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

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

6. UK SMI Working Group Meetings and Steering Committee

Past Meetings:

Virology Working Group (17 January 2018)

Bacteriology Working Group (7 February 2018)

Steering Committee (11 April 2018)

Future meetings:

Virology Working Group (13 June 2018)

Bacteriology Working Group (11 July 2018)

Steering Committee (12 September 2018)

7. Consultation

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

8. Recently Issued Documents

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

[Q4 - Good practice when performing molecular amplification assays](#)

9. 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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