Contents

Protocol List xix Abbreviations xxiii Contributors xxv Bacteriology of urine 1 Eleri M. Davies and Deirdre A. Lewis Introduction 1 1 Specimen collection and transport 1 2 2.1 Collection 1 2.2 Transport 4 Microscopy and other rapid screening methods 5 3 3.1 Reagent strips/dipsticks 5 3.2 Microscopy 6 3.3 Automated screening methods for urine 8 Interpretation of findings on microscopy 9 4.1 Leukocytes 9 4.2 Red cells 10 4.3 Epithelial cells 10 4.4 Bacteria 10 4.5 Casts and crystals 10 Culture 11 5 5.1 Choice of media 11

5.2 Culture methods 12

5.3 Localization of site of infection 13

Interpretation of culture results 16 6.1 The concept of significant bacteriuria 16

ureteric catheter specimens 18
6.4 Asymptomatic bacteriuria of pregnancy 19

5.4 Culture of urine for Mycobacterium tuberculosis 15

indwelling catheters and ileal conduits 176.3 Interpretation and reporting of suprapubic aspirate and

Interpretation and reporting of specimens from patients with

7	Identification of bacteria 19
	7.1 Yeasts 19
	7.2 Identification of difficult or 'fastidious' organisms 19
8	Sensitivity testing 21
	8.1 Choice of first-line and second-line agents for sensitivity testing 21
	8.2 Primary sensitivity testing 23
	8.3 Reporting of sensitivities 23
9	Further tests 24
	9.1 Detection of antimicrobial substances in urine (51) 24
	erences 24
	eriology of normally sterile body fluids 27
Olive	Murphy and Roger Freeman
1	Introduction 27
2	Methods for the examination of blood 27
	2.1 Principles of blood culture 27
	2.2 Principles of blood culture methods 30
	2.3 Blood culture methods 35
	2.4 Blood culture diagnosis of catheter-related sepsis 38
	2.5 Alternative methods to broth cultures 39
3	Methods for the examination of cerebrospinal fluid 40
	3.1 Introduction 40
	3.2 Bacteriological aspects of specimen collection 40
	3.3 Microscopy 41
	3.4 Culture 43
	3.5 Additional tests 44
	3.6 Interpretation of results 45
	3.7 Tuberculous meningitis (TBM) 46
4	Methods for the examination of peritoneal
	dialysis effluents 47
	4.1 Definition of CAPD peritonitis 47
	4.2 Sampling PDE 47
	4.3 Interpretation of culture results 49
	4.4 Identification and sensitivity testing 49
	4.5 Culture negative peritonitis 49
5	Methods for the examination of serous fluids 50
	5.1 Examination of non-purulent serous fluids 50
Refe	rences 52
Bact	eriology of the respiratory tract 55
Steve	O'Hara J. Andrew Lowes and Grace Smith
1	Introduction 55
2	Upper respiratory tract 55
	2.1 The nose 55

	2.2	The nasopharynx 57
	2.3	The throat 59
	2.4	The ear 63
	2.5	The maxillary sinuses 64
3	Low	er respiratory tract (LRT) 65
_	3.1	Specimen collection 65
	3.2	Routine microscopy and culture 66
	3.3	Special microscopy and culture 73
	3.4	Non-cultural methods of diagnosis 83
Ref	ereno	res 91
Rac	terio	logy of the genital tract 93
		A. Ison, Alun J. Davies, and Peter M. Hawkey
1	11.1	oduction 93
	1.1	Normal vaginal flora 93 Changes in normal vaginal flora 94
	1.3	Changes in normal vaginal flora 94 Pathogens associated with specific clinical conditions 96
•		•
2		ection and transport of specimens 96
3		essment of specimens in the laboratory 98
	3.1	Microscopy 98
		Detection of antigen in specimens by enzyme immunoassay 100
4	Cult	
	4.1	Selective medium for the isolation of N. gonorrhoeae 101
	4.2 4.3	Blood agar and blood agar with neomycin 108 MacConkey's agar 108
	4.4	Chlamydia transport medium 109
5		ological methods 109
3	5.1	Serological diagnosis of syphilis 109
	5.2	Serological diagnosis of chlamydial infections 116
6		ecular methods 116
U	6.1	Chlamydial trachomatis 116
	6.2	Neisseria gonorrhoeae 117
	6.3	Treponema pallidum 117
7		ibiotic susceptibility testing 117
,	7.1	Antibiotic susceptibility testing of N. gonorrhoeae 117
	7.2	Antibiotic sensitivity testing of other pathogens 118
Refe	erenc	
		logy of superficial and deep tissue infection 121 er, Ann Bushell, and Peter M. Hawkey

Introduction 121

1.2 Transport 122

Taking good samples 121

1

2	General methods 123
	2.1 Pus 123
	2.2 Swabs 125
	2.3 Fluids 126
	2.4 Tissue 126
3	Anaerobic methods 127
	3.1 Gas-liquid chromatography (GLC) 127
	3.2 Culture of anaerobes 129
	3.3 Identification of anaerobes 132
	3.4 Anaerobic sensitivity testing 141
4	Skin and soft tissue infections 141
	4.1 Pyoderma and cellulitis 141
	4.2 Wound infections 150
	4.3 Gangrene, myositis, and fasciitis 152
	4.4 Burns, varicose ulcers, ischaemic ulcers, pressure sores 153
	4.5 Sinuses 153
	4.6 Fistulae 154
	4.7 Vesicles and bullae 154
	4.8 Suppurative lymphadenitis 155
	4.9 Chronic ulcers 156
5	Infection associated with the gastrointestinal tract 157
	5.1 Intra-abdominal abscess 157
	5.2 Peritonitis 158
	5.3 Wound infections 160
	5.4 Biliary infections 160
	5.5 Liver abscesses 162
	5.6 Abscesses 162
6	Gynaecological and post-partum infections 163
	6.1 Post-operative infections 163
	6.2 Tubo-ovarian sepsis 164
	6.3 Infection associated with intrauterine contraceptive
	devices (IUCDs) 164
	6.4 Post-partum infections 166
7	Infections of the skeletal system 167
	7.1 Acute osteomyelitis 167
	7.2 Chronic osteomyelitis 168
8	Joint infections 169
	8.1 Prosthetic joint infections 169
9	CNS infections 170
	9.1 Cerebral abscess 170
10	Eye infections 171
	10.1 Acute conjunctivitis 171

10.2	Endophthalmitis	172	?
10.3	Periocular infectio	ns	173

References 174

Bacteriology of intestinal disease 177

Stephen Pedler and Clive Graham

- 1 Introduction 177
- 2 Bacterial enteric pathogens 178
- 3 Culture media 178
 - 3.1 Media for the isolation of salmonellae and shigellae 178
 - 3.2 Screening identification media for salmonellae and shigellae 182
 - 3.3 Media for the isolation of Escherichia coli 0157, Yersinia enterocolitica, and other commonly encountered gastrointestinal pathogens 184
- 4 Routine specimen processing 184
 - 4.1 Specimen collection 187
 - 4.2 Microscopy 187
 - 4.3 Culture 188
 - 4.4 Reading the plates 188
 - 4.5 Serotyping of salmonellae and shigellae 191
 - 4.6 Biochemical identification 201
 - 4.7 Sensitivity testing of salmonellae and shigellae 202
 - 4.8 Reporting to the clinician 202
- 5 Specimen processing for organisms other than salmonellae, shigellae, and campylobacters 203
 - 5.1 Escherichia coli 203
 - 5.2 Yersinia enterocolitica 205
 - 5.3 Vibrio cholerae and V. parahaemolyticus 206
 - 5.4 Clostridium difficile 207
 - 5.5 'Food poisoning' due to Clostridium perfringens, Staphylococcus aureus, and Bacillus cereus 208
 - 5.6 Helicobacter pylori 211

References 212

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing 215

Derek F. J. Brown, Jenny Andrews, Trevor Winstanley, and Alasdair P. MacGowan

- 1 Introduction 215
- 2 Disc diffusion methods for antimicrobial susceptibility testing 216
 - 2.1 Factors affecting diffusion tests 217
 - 2.2 Methods of disc diffusion susceptibility testing 220
 - 2.3 Selection of agents for routine testing 234
 - 2.4 Specific problems in testing 235
 - 2.5 Quality assurance 239
 - 2.6 Primary susceptibility tests 240

NTS				
3	3.1 3.2	chods for determining minimum inhibitory concentrations 241 Agar dilution 241 Broth dilution methods 247 Etest 256		
4	Brea	akpoint methods 256		
5		um bactericidal tests and determination of minimum bactericidal centrations 258		
6	Aut	omated methods 259		
7	Exp	ert systems 260		
8	Clin	nical relevance and epidemiological outputs 263		
Refe	ereno	ces 264		
Anti	micr	obial assays 267		
		eeves and Les O. White		
1	Intr	oduction 267		
2	Clin	ical application of antimicrobial assays 268		
	2.1	General considerations 268		
	2.2	Indications for monitoring 270		
3	Tak	ing specimens for assays 271		
4	Met	hods of assay 273		
	4.1	Characteristics of assay methods: microbiological vs. non-microbiological 273		
5	Mic	robiological assays 276		
6	Imn	Immunoassays 276		
	6.1	General principles 276		
	6.2	Reagent constitution and storage 278		
	6.3	Calibration 278		
	6.4			
	6.5	1		
7		n performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) 282		
	7.1	General principles and terms 282		
	7.2	Characteristics 283		
	7.3 7.4	Principles of separation—reverse phase 283		
	7. 4 7.5	Equipment 284 Sample preparation 285		
	7.5 7.6	Calibration 286		
	7.7	Methods for individual antimicrobials 287		
8		lity assurance 289		
-	-	Internal controls 289		

8.2 External quality assessment (EQA) 289

Clinical interpretation 290

References 291

Lab	poratory computing in medical microbiology 295		
And	drew M. Lovering		
1	Introduction 295		
2	Laboratory computers in microbiology 295		
	2.1 Stand-alone systems (Laboratory Information		
	Management Systems—LIMS) 295		
	2.2 Systems integrated with other hospital systems (Hospital Information Systems—HIS)296		
	2.3 Feeder systems to electronic patient records (Integrated Laboratory Information Management Systems—ILIMS) 296		
3	Core elements of a microbiology computer system 297		
	3.1 Requesting 297		
	3.2 Result entry 299		
	3.3 Validation, system actions, and authorization 301		
	3.4 Returning results to requesters 302		
4	Secondary functions 304		
	4.1 Access, security, and audit 304		
	4.2 Laboratory management functions 305		
	4.3 Data extraction 305		
5	System maintenance and development 306		
6	Procurement of a new system 306		
Ref	ferences 307		
	ality control and quality assurance 309 A. Hyde and P. K. Curley		
1	Introduction 309		
2	Personnel 310		
	2.1 Recruitment policies and staffing structures 310		
	2.2 Training and organization 310		
	2.3 Standard operating procedures 311		
	2.4 Logistics and organization 312		
	2.5 Specimen collection and transport 313		
	2.6 Specimen handling and report validation 313		
3	Culture media quality issues 314		
	3.1 Storage conditions 314		
	3.2 Preparation of culture media 315		
	3.3 User problems 318		
4	Maintenance and storage of control organisms 321		
	4.1 Long-term storage 321		
	4.2 Short-term storage for ready access 322		

Equipment monitoring 322

5.1 Temperature control 322

5

	5.2 Control of anaerobic cabinets 323
	5.3 pH meter electrodes 323
	5.4 Autoclaves and preparators 324
	5.5 Pipettes 325
6	Quality control of laboratory tests and reagents 325
	6.1 Chemicals and dyes 325
	6.2 Staining techniques 325
	6.3 Kits and identification systems 325
	6.4 United Kingdom National External Quality Assessment Scheme
	(UKNEQAS) 326
	6.5 Internal quality control 326
7	Near patient testing 327
8	Audit and error logging 327
9	Conclusions 327
Refe	erences 328
Labo	pratory investigation of health care-associated infection 331
	M. Hawkey and Kevin G. Kerr
1	Introduction 331
1	1.1 Administration 332
2	
2	Sample collection 333 2.1 Surveillance 333
	2.2 Sampling protocols 334
2	
3	Specimen processing 341 3.1 Criteria for organism identification 341
	3.1 Criteria for organism identification 3413.2 Use of selective and differential media 341
4	
4	Bacterial typing systems 342 4.1 Principles and use of bacterial typing systems 342
	4.1 Principles and use of bacterial typing systems 3424.2 Biotyping 343
	4.3 Antibiogram and resistogram typing 344
	4.4 Serotyping 344
	4.5 Bacteriophage typing 345
	4.6 Bacteriocin typing 345
	4.7 Molecular typing methods 346
Refe	rences 352
Enid	omiological matheds in the investigation of
	emiological methods in the investigation of e bacterial infections 355
	en R. Palmer
•	Introduction 355
	Basic concepts in infectious disease epidemiology 355 2.1 Reservoir of infection 355
	2.1 Reservoir of infection 355

	2.3 Mode of transmission 356
	2.4 Occurrence 356
	2.5 Incubation period 357
	2.6 Host response 357
	2.7 Analysis and presentation of data 357
	2.8 Communicability 359
3	Epidemiological methods 359
	3.1 Descriptive methods 359
4	Analytical methods 361
	4.1 Case-control studies 362
	4.2 Cohort studies 366
	4.3 Statistical analysis of case-control and cohort studies 367
5	A practical approach to the investigation of an acute incident 369
	5.1 Identification and confirmation of the problem 369
Ref	rences 371
C1 -	ind was adversed one
	ing procedures 373
1	Gram's stain (Preston and Morrell's modification) 373
	1.1 Solutions required 373
	1.2 Staining procedure 373
2	Giemsa stain 374
	2.1 Solutions required 374
	2.2 Staining procedure 374
3	Stains for acid-fast bacilli 375
	3.1 Auramine phenol 375
	3.2 Ziehl-Neelsen 375
	3.3 Kinyoun's acid-fast stain 376
4	Stains for metachromatic (volutin) granules 377
	4.1 Loeffler's methylene blue 377
	4.2 Albert's stain, modified 377
	4.3 Neisser's stain 378
5	Spore stain (Schaeffer and Fulton's method) 378
	5.1 Staining procedure 378
Bac	eriological media not usually commercially available 379
1	Transport media 379
•	1.1 Chlamydia transport medium 379
2	Selective/differential media 380
4	2.1 Deoxycholate citrate, crystal violet, cefazolin, rhamnose agar (DCCR) 380
	2.2 Deoxyribonuclease, toluidine blue, cefalothin agar (DTBCA) 380
	2.3 Leeds Acinetobacter medium (LAM) 381
	2.4 MacConkey, inositol, carbenicillin agar (MICA) 381
	2.5 Nalidixic acid, cetrimide agar 382
	2.5 Nalidixic acid, cetrimide agar 382

	2.6	Phenanthroline, C-3911 agar 382
	2.7	Proteeae identification medium 383
	2.8	Salt, phenolphthalein, methicillin agar (SPMA) 383
	2.9	Toluidine blue deoxynucleic acid agar (TDA) 384
	2.10	Vancomycin imipenem agar (VIA) 384
Refe	erenc	res 385
Prin	ciple	es of biochemical tests for the identification of bacteria 38
1	Intr	oduction 387
	1.1	Catalase test 387
	1.2	Citrate test 388
	1.3	Decarboxylase and dehydrolase tests 388
	1.4	Hippurate hydrolysis test 389
	1.5	Hydrogen sulfide test 389
	1.6	Indole test 390
	1.7	Methyl red and Voges-Proskauer test 391
	1.8	Nitrate reduction test 392
	1.9	ONPG (o-nitrophenyl-β-D-galactopyranoside) test 393
	1.10	Oxidase test 393
	1.11	Phenylalanine deaminase test 394
	1.12	Urease test 395
Refe	erenc	res 395
Epid	lemi	ological questionnaire 397

Index 401

Protocol list

Specimen collection and transport

Method for collection of MSU 3 Method for collection of urine from UCP 3 Dip inoculum technique 4

Microscopy and other rapid screening methods

The microtitre tray and inverted microscope method for urine microscopy 7

Culture

Method for using filter paper strips (paper foot method) 13 Localization test for prostatitis 'Stamey test' (37) 14 Culture for M. tuberculosis 16

Sensitivity testing

Germ-tube test 21

Methods for the examination of blood

Taking a blood culture 28

Summary of blood culture subculture plate procedures for positive cultures based on Gram stain 32

Procedure for the assessment of blood culture isolates thought to be contaminants 34

Gram and acridine orange leukocyte cytospin test for CVC sepsis diagnosis (38) 39

Methods for the examination of cerebrospinal fluid

Procedure for microscopy of CSF, the total cell count 41 Procedure for microscopy and culture of CSF, Gram stain, and differential count 42

Procedure for the diagnosis of tuberculous meningitis 46

Methods for the examination of peritoneal dialysis effluents

Routine bacteriological examination of PDE sample 48

Methods for the examination of serous fluids

Routine bacteriological examination of non-purulent serous fluids 50

Upper respiratory tract

Method of screening for nasal carriage of methicillin-resistant S. aureus 56

Method for culture and identification of B. pertussis or B. parapertussis 58

Culture and identification of β-haemolytic streptococci 60

Culture and identification of Corynebacterium diphtheriae 62

Method for culture of ear swabs 64

Lower respiratory tract (LRT)

Method for microscopy of sputum 66

Methods for sputum culture 68

Methods for the identification of Streptococcus pneumoniae 70

Method for identification of Haemophilus spp. 70

Preparation of specimens for microscopy for acid-fast bacilli (AFB) 76

Method of sputum culture for mycobacteria using conventional medium 78

Method of culture for acid-fast bacilli of tissue, pleural fluid,

swabs, and pus 79

Method of microscopy and culture for Nocardia spp. 81

Method of culture for Legionella spp. 82

Titration of complement and haemolytic serum 84

Titration of antigen and positive control standard antiserum 85

Complement fixation test 87

Method for serological detection of *Legionella pneumophila* infection using an indirect fluorescent antibody test (IFAT) 89

Assessment of specimens in the laboratory

Immunofluorescent detection of Chlamydia trachomatis antigen 100

Culture

Identification of N. gonorrhoeae using Syva Microtrak reagent 104

Identification of N. gonorrhoeae using the Phadebact Monoclonal GC test 105

Serological methods

VDRL test for reaginic antibodies in syphilis 109

Treponema haemagglutination (THA) test 112

Absorbed fluorescent treponemal antigen test (FTA-abs) 114

Anaerobic methods

Anaerobic culture scheme for specimens from serious infections, e.g. pus and tissue from brain, lung, and liver abscesses, myonecrosis and related infections 129

Procedure for the use of a gas generator system 131

Methods for the identification of common anaerobic Gram-positive and Gram-negative rods 133

Identification scheme for clostridia isolated from clinical material 138

Skin and soft tissue infections

Methods for the detection of staphylococcal coagulase 145

Methods used for the detection of DNase and thermostable deoxyribonuclease (TNase) 146

Gynaecological and post-partum infections

Procedure for the culture of IUCDs and cervical swabs for actinomycetes (adapted from ref. 29) 165

Routine specimen processing

Microscopy for pus cells in faeces 187

Examination of the campylobacter plate 189

Examination of solid media for salmonellae and shigellae 190

The MUCAP test 190

Slide agglutination tests 193

Inactivation of Vi antigen 194

Method for tube agglutinations for salmonellae 196

Changing the phase of a salmonella 197

Specimen processing for organisms other than salmonellae, shigellae, and campylobacters

Method for the detection of *Clostridium difficile* cytotoxin in faeces 208 Isolation of *Clostridium perfringens* from faeces in suspected food poisoning

Culture and sensitivity testing of H. pylori 212

Disc diffusion methods for antimicrobial susceptibility testing

Preparation of plates 221

outbreaks 209

Preparation of inoculum 222

Inoculation with control on a separate plate 222

Comparative method with control on the same plate (Stokes' method) 223

Alternative methods of standardizing inoculum and inoculating plates 224

Chromogenic substrate test for β -lactamase activity in Haemophilus spp.,

Neisseria spp., and Branhamella catarrhalis 236

Detection of extended-spectrum β-lactamases 237

Methods for determining minimum inhibitory concentrations

Broth macrodilution MIC method 248

Broth microdilution MIC method 255

Breakpoint methods

Susceptibility testing by the agar breakpoint method 257

Taking specimens for assays

Important points about collecting specimens for assays (when in doubt contact the laboratory for advice) 272

Immunoassays

Dilution protocols for aminoglycoside assays on Abbott

TDX/FLX analysers 281

High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)

Advice on the preparation of accurate stock solutions for use in the preparation of working calibrators $\,$ 286 $\,$

HPLC method for the assay of benzylpenicillin in serum 288

Bacterial typing systems

Dienes typing method for Proteus mirabilis and P. vulgaris 346

A rapid method for the isolation of bacterial plasmid DNA 347

Procedure for digestion of plasmid DNA with restriction endonucleases 350

A method for RAPD-PCR 351