

Laboratory News

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Microbiology Lab Update

Modifications to AST panel for streptococcal isolates

On or about January 31, 2024 our AST panels for streptococcal isolates will be modified as follows:

Streptococcus pneumoniae remains universally susceptible to vancomycin. A comment stating this will be added, replacing the reporting of a vancomycin test result.

For our current panels see the following:

MCHS [Current Antimicrobial Susceptibility Test Panels \(MCHS\).](#)

Table: New streptococcal AST panels; reported drugs are denoted by an "X".

Antimicrobial	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> CSF, Blood	<i>S. pneumoniae</i> Other	GBS Screen, GBS from urine: 14- 45 y/o	<i>Streptococcus</i> , β-hemolytic group. Blood & CSF	<i>Streptococcus</i> , β-hemolytic group. Other sites	<i>Streptococcus</i> , Viridans Grp
Ceftriaxone	X	X		X		X
Clindamycin [1]			X		X	
Erythromycin [1]		X			X	
Levofloxacin		X				
Meropenem	X	(X)				
Penicillin	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tetracycline		X			(X)	
Trim/Sulfa		X				
Vancomycin			(X)	X	(X)	X

"()" denotes a cascaded drug that is reported only when specific narrow spectrum agents are resistant. GBS, group B β-hemolytic streptococcus.

[1] Non-urine isolates only.

These changes have been made following the latest standards from the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute and with input from our antimicrobial stewardship committee, pharmacy and the infectious diseases service.

Please contact Dr. Thomas Novicki or Dr. Sophie Arbefeville (ext. 16100) for questions.