

# Test forms for the External Quality Assessment (EQA) for laboratories participating in the European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network (EARS-Net), 2024

**Participating laboratories can only submit results online via the webtool.**

**This form cannot be submitted.**

This form is designed to help participating laboratories prepare their results before submission in the EARS-Net EQA webtool (<https://earsnet.ega.dtu.dk/>). When submitting the results online in the webtool, participants will be asked for the following information:

## TEST FORM METHODS

***Enterococcus faecium* - strain no.** \_\_\_\_\_

The isolate should be considered as being obtained from a patient with a bloodstream infection.

For penicillins (amoxicillin and ampicillin), it should be assumed that intravenous administration will take place.

Amoxicillin should be tested, regardless of results obtained for ampicillin.

For gentamicin, it should be assumed the antimicrobial is going to be administered in combination with penicillins or glycopeptides.

For gentamicin, report isolates not presenting high-level aminoglycoside resistance (HLAR) as susceptible (S). Report isolates presenting HLAR as resistant (R).

Non-reported results will not be scored, but will still be visible in the individual evaluation reports.

1. Which methodology did you mainly use for antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) in this EQA exercise?

- Broth microdilution
- Macro broth dilution (tubes)
- Agar dilution
- Gradient test
  - E-test
  - MIC strip
  - Other – specify: \_\_\_\_\_

- Disk/Tablet diffusion
  - Oxoid
  - Neo sensitabs
  - BD/BBL sensi disc
  - MAST
  - Liofilchem
  - Other– specify: \_\_\_\_\_

- Automated system
  - VITEK
  - Phoenix
  - Microscan Walkaway
  - Other – specify: \_\_\_\_\_

- Other
- If other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Which standard/guideline did you use when performing AST?

- EUCAST
- Other

If other, please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Would you normally send this (invasive!) strain to a reference or other laboratory?

Yes/No

4. Please change method for the relevant antibiotic(s) if it differs from the chosen method in question 1. The result will by default be set to the information provided in question 1.

Antimicrobial	Method
Amoxicillin	
Ampicillin	
Gentamicin	
Linezolid	
Teicoplanin	
Vancomycin	

Strain ID	Antimicrobial	Results and interpretation		
		≤ / = / >	MIC value (mg/L) or zone diameter (mm)	S / I / R / NA
	Amoxicillin			
	Ampicillin			
	Gentamicin			
	Linezolid			
	Teicoplanin			
	Vancomycin			

Kindly note, due to the Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs) between DTU and the original providers of the isolate:

1. It is recommended to store the strain in your strain collection (e.g. in a -80°C freezer), at least until you have reviewed your results from this EQA exercise. This will allow for repetition of species identification and AST, if needed, in light of your individual performance.
2. Strains received for the 2024 EARS-Net EQA cannot be re-distributed further by the recipient laboratories.
3. It is not possible for DTU or the National EARS-Net EQA Coordinator to distribute strains to laboratories after the EQA exercise, e.g. for confirmatory, training, or reference purposes.