

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

***Staphylococcus aureus* - strain no.** _____

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

Both oxacillin and ceftioxin should be tested.

Oxacillin, ceftioxin and norfloxacin results should be reported, regardless of their EUCAST status as 'screen only'.

All fluoroquinolone antimicrobials (ciprofloxacin, levofloxacin and norfloxacin) should be tested, regardless of results obtained for norfloxacin.

Breakpoints currently based on ECOFF values can be used for interpretation of results, when applicable, if no other relevant EUCAST clinical breakpoints exist.

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
Cefoxitin	
Ciprofloxacin	
Daptomycin	
Levofloxacin	
Linezolid	
Norfloxacin	
Oxacillin	
Rifampicin	
Vancomycin	

Strain ID	Antimicrobial	Results and interpretation		
		≤ / = / >	MIC value (mg/L) or zone diameter (mm)	S / I / R / NA
	Cefoxitin			
	Ciprofloxacin			
	Daptomycin			
	Levofloxacin			
	Linezolid			
	Norfloxacin			
	Oxacillin			
	Rifampicin			
	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.