More News!

American Society for Microbiology Updates IQCP Guidance

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The American Society for Microbiology (ASM), in collaboration with CLSI and the College of American Pathologists (CAP), has updated individualized quality control plan (IQCP) resources previously posted on ASM's Clinical Microbiology Portal and added a new IQCP template for molecular test systems.

The updated IQCP templates for AST are:

- IQCP for Disk Diffusion AST
- IQCP for Minimal Inhibitory Concentration (MIC)-based AST System

These two templates have been updated to include further guidance on how to conduct risk assessment including, for example, a redesign of the risk assessment section by organizing the information into five categories. Updates and changes to these templates are noted in red font for ease of comparison with the previous versions. Laboratories that are updating or revising their IQCPs may consider adopting these updated templates or may continue to use the original templates.

The "NEW" IQCP template is:

- IQCP for QC of molecular test system.

This newly developed template can be used to prepare and organize an IQCP for QC of a commercial cartridge-based molecular test system for detection of a single or multiple targets. For ease of use, it follows the same format as the other IQCP templates but addresses risk acceptability assignments that apply specifically to molecular test systems, such as extraction failures, cross contamination, and change in pathogen target sequences.

These IQCP templates are available **here.**

The Joint CLSI-EUCAST Working Group

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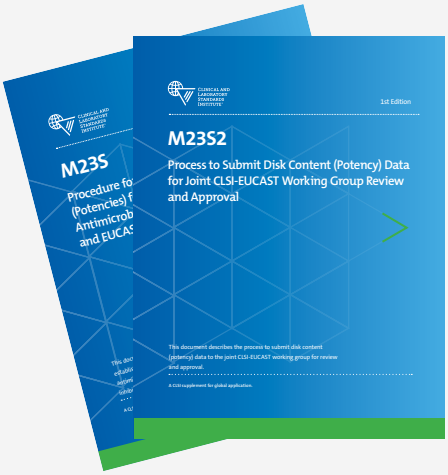

The Joint CLSI-EUCAST Working Group (WG) was organized in 2018 and members include representatives from both CLSI and EUCAST. There are two main goals for this WG which are to:

1. Describe a method for disk content determination which can be used early in the drug development process to avoid having different disk contents in the CLSI and EUCAST standards.

2. Discuss differences between CLSI and EUCAST QC criteria, methods for establishing QC criteria and the possibility of harmonizing CLSI and EUCAST QC criteria.

To date, two freely available **guidelines** have been published to support Goal 1, which include the following:

CLSI M23-S 1st Ed. Procedure for Optimizing Disk Contents (Potencies) for Disk Diffusion Testing of Antimicrobial Agents Using Harmonized CLSI and EUCAST Criteria

CLSI M23-S2 1st Ed. Process to Submit Disk Content (Potency) Data for Joint CLSI-EUCAST Working Group Review and Approval

Pharmaceutical representatives with questions about disk content submissions can contact CLSI through a dedicated **webpage** or EUCAST **here.**

The Joint CLSI EUCAST WG is now addressing opportunities to harmonize recommendations for development of QC processes and QC ranges.