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ELITechGroup Microbiology releases a new rapid test to detect resistance to polymyxins.

Signes, France - October 17th, 2016 - Among the most clinically significant multidrug-resistant bacteria are carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae. Because these bacteria usually remain susceptible to polymyxins, interest in this old class of antibiotics has been recently renewed. However, the increasing use of colistin explains why Enterobacterial strains resistant to colistin are increasingly reported worldwide.

Currently available polymyxins susceptibility methods are fastidious, time-consuming (24 hours) and some methods are not reliable. They are poorly adapted to the clinical need and to the prevention of the dissemination of those multidrug resistant isolates.

ELITechGroup Microbiology releases its new Rapid Polymyxin NP test proposed as a rapid, reliable and cost-effective test to detect polymyxins (polymyxin E or Colistin, polymyxin B) resistant Enterobacteriaceae.

This test is based on the detection of the glucose metabolization related to bacterial growth in presence of a defined concentration of colistin. Formation of acid metabolites consecutive to the glucose metabolization is evidenced by a color change (orange to yellow) of a pH indicator. The Rapid Polymyxin NP test is easy-to-perform, very sensitive and specific. It can detect in only a couple of hours polymyxin-resistant and –susceptible isolates from any enterobacterial species, regardless of the molecular mechanism of polymyxins resistance.

This test offers the possibility of detecting polymyxins resistance from bacterial cultures before any antimicrobial drug susceptibility testing results are obtained. Results are obtained at least 16 hours sooner with this test than with the reference broth microdilution method. It is as reliable as the reference dilution technique but much less cumbersome and is not based on diffusion of large polymyxin molecules in agar, which therefore prevents false susceptibility results.

Pr. Patrice Nordmann (University of Fribourg, INSERM, Switzerland), co-inventor of the test, declared *"The rapid polymyxin NP test can be used to screen resistance to polymyxins in countries facing endemic spread of carbapenemase producers and for which polymyxins are last-resort drugs. But it also enables anywhere else the rapid identification of carriers of polymyxin resistant isolates, thus leading to rapid implementation of adequate hygiene measures to control their spread."*

Press Release

About ELITechGroup Microbiology

ELITechGroup Microbiology (EM) is a major component of the ELITech Group and relies on its strong credo: to provide reliable and simple diagnostic tools for proximity labs in the Biology area. EM develops innovative products derived from its wide expertise combining agglutination tests, parasite concentrators, and tests in strip format for the identification and antimicrobial susceptibility testing of bacterial and fungal species. EM brings its diagnostic support in the fields of Bacteriology, Mycology and Parasitology.

About the ELITech Group

The ELITech Group is a privately held group of worldwide manufacturers and distributors of in vitro diagnostic equipment and reagents. By bringing together IVD specialty companies that offer innovative products and solutions, ELITechGroup has become a major contributor in advancing clinical diagnostics to laboratories in the proximity market, those operating closer to the patient. The ELITech Group manufactures and distributes diagnostic products for clinical chemistry, microbiology and molecular biology through direct sales and a distribution network encompassing more than 100 countries.