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Section: Technical Manual	Subject Title: High Level Aminoglycoside Testing	
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HIGH LEVEL AMINOGLYCOSIDE TESTING

Principle

Enterococcal species where an identification and sensitivity has been performed must be tested for resistance to vancomycin and high level gentamicin and streptomycin (HLAR).

Materials

Entero HLAR Bi-plates
Brain Heart Infusion Agar (BHI) - Control Plates

Procedure

1. Using the VITEK colorimeter, prepare a 0.5 McFarland suspension in sterile saline (inoculum from VITEK can be used).
2. Using a sterile swab, spot inoculate the suspension onto each half of the plates. Three organisms can be tested on each plate.
3. After the inocula has dried, incubate the plate at 35°C for up to 48 hours.

Interpretation

Check the control plate for adequate growth. Then check the drug plates for absence or presence of growth; any growth is considered significant. Read plates at 24 hours and record results. If there is no growth on the streptomycin plate, reincubate plate for an additional 24 hours.

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Quality Control

Control strains are tested daily.

	Expected results		
	C	G	S
<i>E. faecalis</i> (ATCC 19966)	+	+	-
<i>E. gallinarum</i> (ATCC 35038)	+	-	-
<i>E. casseliflavus</i> (ATCC 12755)	+	-	+

C = Growth Control; G = Gentamicin; S = Streptomycin; + = growth; - = no growth

Reporting Results

Blood cultures and sterile fluids --- Report with canned comment (Refer to Susceptibility Testing Manual).

Urines and other sites --- Do not report HLAR.

Reference

1. PML Technical Manual data sheet No. 323, Nov. 1993.