

TML/MSH Microbiology Department Policy & Procedure Manual	Policy #MI\TECH\36v01	Page 1 of 1
Section: Technical Manual	Subject Title: Quantitation of Organisms & Cells on Smears & Culture	
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QUANTITATION OF ORGANISMS & CELLS ON SMEARS & CULTURE

Microscopic:

	<u>Report as:</u>
± --- <1 per oil immersion field	±
+ --- 1 - 5 per oil immersion field	+
++ --- 5 - 10 per oil immersion field	++
+++ --- >10 per oil immersion field	+++

Culture:

	<u>Report as:</u>
± --- few colonies in primary inoculum	scant growth
+ --- confluent growth in primary inoculum	light growth
++ --- growth up to 2nd quadrant	moderate growth
+++ --- growth in or >3rd quadrant	heavy growth

Note: Quantitation precedes identification.

Size of colonies

- lg - large
- med - medium
- sm - small
- tiny - tiny
- ppt - pinpoint