

TML\MSH Microbiology Department Policy & Procedure Manual	<b>Policy # MIQC\03\v01</b>	Page 1 of 1
Section: <b>Quality Control Manual</b>	Subject Title: <b>Sheep/Horse Blood Sterility Testing</b>	
Issued by: <b>LABORATORY MANAGER</b>	Original Date: April 11, 2001	
Approved by: Laboratory Director	Revision Date: February 15, 2002	

## **SHEEP/HORSE BLOOD STERILITY TESTING**

### **Initial Testing** (performed at the Blood Culture bench)

On receipt in the laboratory, each bottle is assigned a letter (A, B, C, etc.). The type of blood, lot #, expiry date, and hematocrit (found on label of bottle) is entered into the LIS and BacT/Alert in the following manner:

- i. Enter the vial location.
- ii. Enter the accession # as bottle letter (space) hematocrit.  
eg. A 39, B 40, C 39, etc.
- iii. Enter the name as follows: type of blood, lot #, expiry date.  
eg. sheep 130820 112387, horse 130825 112387, etc  
As for routine patient specimens, </> will bring up the information entered for the previous specimen.

With a needle and syringe 2.5 mL of blood is aseptically removed from each bottle of blood and inoculated into separate BacT/Alert FAN aerobic bottles. The original bottles of blood are immediately refrigerated and the BacT/Alert bottles are incubated in the BacT/Alert incubator and processed as routine specimens.

Print-out of LIS results will be filed with the invoice on QA bench. If any bottle gives a positive reading, the QA technologist must be informed as soon as possible and the original bottle of blood is removed from use. The BacT/Alert bottle is Gram stained and subcultured to BA (AnO<sub>2</sub>) and CHOC (CO<sub>2</sub>). Identification to the species level (eg. Staphylococcus, diphtheroid, etc) will be sufficient.

### **After Use** (performed by media preparation and the QA technologist.

As each bottle of blood is used, the last few drops of blood are inoculated onto a BA plate which is labelled with the lot # and letter. This plate is incubated at 35°C for 48 hours, then at RT for 48 hours. The results are recorded as a QC item in the LIS for the medium that the blood has been added to.