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 (AnO₂) and CHOC (CO₂). 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.