AAVLD Committee Report

(Note: Please attach any additional pages necessary for the following subtopics and your minutes / narrative)

Bacteriology Steering Committee
Committee

23Oct15
Date

Debra Royal
Committee Co-Chair

Tanya Purvis
Committee Co-chair

Rebecca Franklin-Guild
Nominees for upcoming chair / co-chair

_____
Nominees for upcoming chair / co-chair

Committee Statement of Purpose:
The AAVLD Bacteriology Steering Committee serves to disseminate information related to veterinary diagnostic bacteriology and mycology through education, communication, collaboration, laboratory accreditation, and outreach.

Strategy(ies) for Committee Activity Supporting AAVLD Strategic Plan (Please List):
See the Constitution and Bylaws

Items for Review by the Executive Board (Please List):

- Move the Bacti case presentations from Saturday from 3:30 -5:30 to Friday from 2:00-4:00 and move the Bacti Steering Committee Meeting from Friday at 2:00 to Saturday at 3:30
- Having the foundation send a letter the Thermofisher regarding the lack of support for the Trek Sensititre system and not keeping up with the changes in the CLSI guidelines
- Members requested another mini-symposium next year. If there is a registration fee, it would be good to have a note in the program that it requires pre-registration.

Action Items for the Committee (Please List):

- A draft of a written protocol for administering the IBQAS was presented and discussed. The committee will finalize the draft. It will be available on the AAVLD website and will be sent out with the invitation letter.
- A draft of the written guidelines for committee members for both the subcommittee and steering committee was presented and discussed. The committee will finalize the draft and make it available to the committee co-chairs.
- There was a discussion about the AST committee co-chairs drafting guidelines as well, however the current committee chairs are unable at this time.
- There was a nomination to create an awards chairperson and it passed. Erdal Erol volunteered to continue in that role for one more year.
- There was a nomination to replace Debra as co-chair with Rebecca and the nomination passed.
- Determining the topic and speakers for a mini-symposium. The committee will be in contact with the executive board about timing and additional fees.

Bacteriology and Mycology Subcommittee Minutes

Rebecca Franklin-Guild and Dustin Loy, co-chairs
Friday, October 23, 2015, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

- Discussion of the 2015 IBQAS Results
  - AST Subcommittee will summarize susceptibility results next year. Brian Lubbers has offered to help the AST committee with this.
- Nomination of a new co-chair for 2016-2019 (replace Rebecca) Kenitra Hammac
- Volunteers for the 2016 IBQAS: Durda Slavic, Dubraska Diaz-Campo, Rebecca Franklin-Guild, Kerry Sondegroth
- Discussion on a memorial award or ideas to honor Brenda Love – during steering committee meeting
- Topics for the 2016 Mini-Symposium:
  - Standardizing QC in the lab
  - Rickettsials / Vector Borne Diseases
  - Bacterial Vaccines
  - Antimicrobial reporting best practices
  - Resistance Factors
- The consensus was that QC/Reporting as favored topic
- Nominate a volunteer to moderate and organize the bacti case presentations: Claire Miller
  - Does the committee want the case presentations to continue? Yes
  - Should the time be changed? Suggested to have the time moved to Friday in place of the Enteric committee
- Presentation of BioMic Award for Excellence in Diagnostic Veterinary Medicine: 2015 Award to Dr. Carol Maddox

Antimicrobial Susceptibility Subcommittee Minutes

Ching Ching Wu (absent) and Tim Frana, co-chairs;
Friday, October 23, 2015, 1:30 pm-2:15 pm

- Updates on status for pertinent CLSI documents/standards
  - Tim Frana- slide presentation of newly approved and recently published CLSI documents/standards
- Update/discussion on Trek/Thermofisher implementation of new CLSI VAST standards
  - Dubraska Diaz- led discussion related to use of Sensititre and issues regarding software updates and correspondence to CLSI standards. Letter sent by Subcommittee co-chairs to Trek/Thermofisher following similar discussion in 2014. New update released in 2015 but there have been problems and it has been withdrawn for improvements. Expected to be released again later in 2015. New Bovine/Porcine panel is being developed by Trek and they are looking for feedback from VDLs. Encouraged group to provide feedback directly to Trek.
- USDA/FDA antimicrobial susceptibility testing survey
  - Beth Harris, NVSL-slide presentation describing initiatives related to Executive Order on combating antimicrobial resistance. Multi-agency and stakeholder working group formed to decide on course of action. Results of recent VDL survey on antimicrobial susceptibility testing provided. Will likely be working closely with VDLs to obtain data and decision standard methods for testing in the future.
- Round table discussions
  - Group discussion on how the committee and VDLs can be more involved in providing susceptibility results that support prudent use and antimicrobial stewardship. Resolution passed supporting Bacteriology/Mycology and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Subcommittees to work closely on IBQAS cases with susceptibility results so that VDLs receive feedback on appropriate presentation of these results.
  - Discussed topics for mini-symposium in 2016. Tentative topic selected regarding QC for antimicrobial susceptibility testing.
- New co-chair elected- Dubraska Diaz-Campo

Bacteriology and Mycology Subcommittee Minutes

Debra Royal and Tanya Purvis, co-chairs

Friday, October 23, 2015, 2:15 pm – 3:00 pm

- There was a motion to create an award in memory of Brenda Love. This award would be for a classic bacteriology poster.
- The Walker Student Award would be for a classic bacteriology presentation.
- Tanya led a discussion of a written protocol for administering the IBQAS. Suggested changes were made and the new protocol will be on the AAVLD website and send with the 2016 IBQAS.
- Debra led a discussion of the written guidelines for committee members. It will continue to evolve as other committee members contribute.
- Debra updated the committee on the SOP's and mission statement as requested by AAVLD. Jim Kistler said to hold off because AAVLD is working on organization wide documents
- Rebecca Franklin-Guild was nominated as the new co-chair to replace Debra. Her term will be 2015-2018.
- There was discussion to create an awards chairperson. Erdal Erol volunteered to serve in this role for one more year.

December 17, 2014

Cynthia C. Knapp, MS
Director of US Regulatory and Global Clinical Affairs
Trek Diagnotic Systems
Part of Thermo Fisher Scientific
1 Thermo Fisher Way
Oakwood Village, OH 44146

Dear Cindy:

We are writing to you on behalf of the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD) Subcommittee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (SC AST).

At our last annual meeting a workshop on antimicrobial susceptibility testing was held (*AAVLD Understanding and Effective Application of the Updated CLSI Standards to Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing and Interpretations)*.

This sparked a discussion on how veterinary diagnostic laboratories report results of antimicrobial susceptibility testing. Since many laboratories utilize the Sensititre system, a common response was that they use output from the SWIN software which is part of the Sensititre system.

Currently, the breakpoints defined by the Clinical and Laboratories Standards Institute (CLSI) Subcommittee on Veterinary Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing (VAST) are not static and regular updates are published. The last update was in 2013 with another expected in 2015. While we were not sure of the exact date when the last SWIN breakpoint update was set, we do know it was before 2013. Most of us appreciate the devotion Trek has on timely updates.

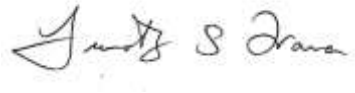
While there are ways users can override defaults settings in SWIN to accommodate new breakpoint determinations, most have difficultly doing that. In addition, the users all felt strongly that a continually updated software in agreement with CLSI derived breakpoints is essential in Trek system. More new drugs have been approved for use in production animals (e.g. Gamithromycin, Tildipirosin), but there has been no communication that the group was aware of for adding new drugs to the appropriate plates.

Another issue brought to attention was the fact that many breakpoints in SWIN are derived from non-CLSI approved sources. While it is true that there are a great many drug/bug combinations that require susceptibility testing but do not have CLSI-approved breakpoints, it is important to have some manner to indicate which interpretive criteria are based on CLSI-approved breakpoints and which are not.

The VDLs are accredited by the AAVLD and a best practices document approved by the AAVLD Bacteriology Subcommittee suggests VDL "*follow guidelines set forth in the most current version of the Performance Standards for Antimicrobial Disc and Dilution Susceptibility Tests for Bacteria Isolated from Animals*". It is important that the VDLs and clients are aware which interpretive criteria results are based on approved breakpoints and which are not. A notation such as an asterisk or similar would be very helpful.

Trek has been a leader in veterinary antimicrobial susceptibility testing. We have benefited and appreciated the devotion it has towards veterinary clients. We urge Thermo Fisher, the new owner of the Sensititre system, to continue to provide excellent customer service and have vision in making this system a sustainable one. Please convey our message and request to the appropriate decision maker so that customer's loyalty to this system and product can be maintained and continue to grow.

Sincerely,



Ching Ching Wu

Timothy Frana DVM, MPH, PhD
Associate Professor/Head of Bacteriology
Co-Chair of AAVLD SC AST
CLSI VAST Reviewer

Ching Ching Wu DVM, PhD
Professor of Veterinary Microbiology
Co-Chair of AAVLD SC AST
CLSI VAST member

DATE: October 2015

PURPOSE:

This document is to guide the Bacteriology/Mycology Subcommittee in selecting isolates for the IBQAS as well as outlining the proper use of the IBQAS for laboratory conformance. The IBQAS tailored as a self-assessment to help you identify points in your unit that need attention.

DEFINITIONS:

IBQAS: Inter-Laboratory Quality Assurance Survey
BL2: Bio-safety Level 2

COMPOSITION OF THE ANNUAL IBQAS:

- All organisms should be BL2 organisms.
- There should be a minimum of 4 case histories with a minimum of 4 associated isolates.
    - Mixed cultures are acceptable if they are suited to the case history.
- At least 2 of the case histories and associated isolates should be composed of isolates that all laboratories and bench top workers should be able to identify. These isolates should serve as a minimum standard for QA/QC to the acceptable standard of the individual laboratories.
- The other case histories and associated isolates can be composed of isolates that would be considered more challenging and serve as an educational component.
- The common and educational isolates will be identified in the results document sent out by the subcommittee.
- Volunteers will be sought at the annual AAVLD meeting to submit histories and isolates as well as summarize the results. At least 4 volunteers from different laboratories should be represented.
    - These volunteers will plan the IBQAS organisms and history over conference calls and coordinate with NVSL for shipment of the isolates.
- A summary of all submitted results will be posted on the AAVLD website under the Bacteriology committee section and will be e-mailed to all participating laboratories after the volunteers have compiled the results from the isolate they submitted.
- At least one case history can request susceptibilities.

GRADING:

There will be no grading of the IBQAS done by the committee and no score will be returned to the laboratories. The IBQAS is intended as a self-assessment of the laboratories. It should be noted that as it isn't graded, there cannot be any penalty associated with not identifying a correct isolate from AAVLD. The participating laboratories must assess and verify the accuracy and reliability of the results through your own grading criteria and procedures.

LABORATORY USE:

The method used for proficiency testing must be the primary method or system used for diagnostic testing at the time the PT event is received. The laboratory must only test and report on PT samples to the degree the Laboratory currently performs these specific tests to analyze the PT samples in house. The participating laboratories should identify the isolates in a manner that you would typically handle these types of diagnostic submissions. You are only expected to identify to the level that your lab is capable. If you are identifying without using your standard identification and reporting procedures, the PT will not be comparing your labs analytical performance with that of the other laboratories based on normal patient testing. Irrespective of the type of data to be analyzed, it is important that the data from all of the participating laboratories be compatible.