**Gonococcal Isolate Surveillance Project**

**OMB 0920-0307**

**Sancta St. Cyr, Project Officer**

**Attachment 3b2**

Control Strain Instructions

Form Approved

OMB No. 0920-0307

Exp. Date 08/31/2021

**Instructions for Quality Control Assessment - Control Strain Susceptibility Testing**

* 1. Quality Control assessment
     1. Quality Control strains:
        1. *N. gonorrhoeae*, strain ATCC 49226 (F-18; Susceptible)
        2. *N. gonorrhoeae*, strain WHO L (CMRNG\*, CipHLR, CfxDS\*, CroDS\*)
        3. *N. gonorrhoeae*, strain WHO U (AzmNS\*)
        4. *N. gonorrhoeae*, strain WHO M (bLacP\*, use for beta-lactamase QC only)

\**Abbreviations:* *bLacP, strain with chromosomally plasmid mediated resistance to penicillin (MICs, ≥2.0 µg/ml); CMRNG,* *strain with chromosomally mediated resistance to penicillin and tetracycline (MICs, ≥2.0 µg/ml); HLR, high-level resistance, MIC ≥16.0 µg/ml of ciprofloxacin; CfxDS, decreased susceptibility to cefixime (MICs, ≥0.125 µg/ml);; CroDS, decreased susceptibility to ceftriaxone (MICs, ≥0.25 µg/ml);* *AzmNS, nonsusceptible to azithromycin (MICs, ≥2.0 µg/ml).*

* + 1. The LRRB will provide one copy (frozen; or lyophilized) of each QC strain annually.
    2. AR Lab Network labs are required to propagate and make multiple aliquots of each QC strain upon receiving the isolates.
       1. MICs of QC strains should be confirmed at the time the frozen stocks are prepared.
       2. Make 5 copies/aliquots for each QC strain.
       3. QC strains are stored at -70 oC in a solution of trypticase soy broth containing 20% glycerol.
       4. QC strains may be stored at -70 ºC for up to 2 years.
    3. QC strains propagation
       1. **Do not** **use** QC strain that has been passed more than 10 times.
       2. **Sub**-**culture** QC strains from frozen stock every 7-10 days.

*\*Notes 1: keep the frozen, stock culture(s) on dry-ice (use ice if dry-ice is not available.)*

*\*Notes 2: work quickly to prevent the frozen, stock culture(s) from thawing.*

*\*Notes 3: return the frozen, stock culture(s) to the -70 ºC immediately.*

*\*Notes 4: discard the stock culture if it had been pulled from the -70 ºC more than 10 times.*

* + 1. Quality Control schedule
       1. A QC test is performed each time a new batch of growth medium is made/purchased.
       2. A QC test is performed each time new batch of antimicrobial agent is used.
       3. A QC test is performed each time clinical isolates are tested, unless an Individualized Quality Control Plan (IQCP) is developed that states otherwise.
       4. QC results are recorded on QC form or along with test results.

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