Are you ready for your UKAS inspection for ISO 15819:2012?

Medical laboratories are currently in a period of transition. Having previously been accredited to CPA (Clinical Pathology Accreditation) standards, most are now working towards UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation) accreditation to the internationally recognised international standard ISO 15189:2012 - Medical laboratories - Requirements for quality and competence. The standard includes specific requirements regarding quality control materials.

Find out how NCTC can help you to prepare for your visit.

Find out more

New panel of WHO control strains for Neisseria gonorrhoeae antimicrobial susceptibility testing - coming soon!

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in N. gonorrhoeae is of significant international concern; several high profile bodies (ECDC, CDC, WHO) have issued both global and regional action plans which aim to ensure that gonorrhoea remains a treatable infection. A consistent theme within of all the recommendations is the strong emphasis on AMR surveillance of N. gonorrhoeae isolates to monitor regional trends and to detect new and emerging resistance.

In order to address this NCTC has acquired a set of 14 well-characterised WHO N. gonorrhoeae reference strains which have been described and deposited within NCTC by Dr. Magnus Unemo from the WHO Collaborating Centre in Orebro, Sweden.

Search Neisseria gonorrhoeae strains currently available from NCTC

Find out more

How to deposit strains with NCTC

NCTC specialises in preserving and distributing bacterial strains of medical importance. Organisms deposited with NCTC are maintained by experienced staff and we welcome depositing Type strains, organisms with new or novel properties and strains associated with outbreaks. If you would like to deposit strains with NCTC, please download and complete the NCTC deposit form. There is no charge for depositing strains with NCTC.

Find out more
NCTC in research

NCTC strains are regularly used in research worldwide. We have recently started a series of news articles on published work which uses NCTC strains called NCTC in research. Two articles have been published so far, and more are on the way:

NCTC in research: *E. faecium* in healthcare infection

NCTC strains in modern research

If you have recently published using an NCTC strain, let us know and your article could be featured on the website, newsletter or on Twitter.

Email us on culturecollections.marketing@phe.gov.uk

World Data Centre for Microorganisms (WDCM)

WDCM was established 50 years ago as the data centre for the World Federation for Culture Collection (WFCC) Microbial Resource Centre (MIRCEN).

It aims to provide integrated information services by fully utilising hyperlinked data technology for microbial resource centres and microbiologists all over the world.

At the 50th anniversary meeting in September, Julie Russell (Head of Culture Collections) presented ‘the UK’s National Collection of Type Cultures – answers to 21st century public health questions’.

Click here to view the presentation

Find the strains relevant to you

The WDCM reference strains catalogue provides a list of unique identifiers for strains recommended for use in Quality Assurance.

NCTC will be attending the following events:

**SfAM Early Career Scientists Research Conference**
11 October 2016
The Royal Society of Medicine, London.
Come and visit our stand

**European Culture Collections’ Organisation (ECCO) XXXV**
2-4 November 2016
Aberdeen, Scotland

Don’t forget you can order your very own copy of the NCTC brochure!

Click here

www.phe-culturecollections.org.uk