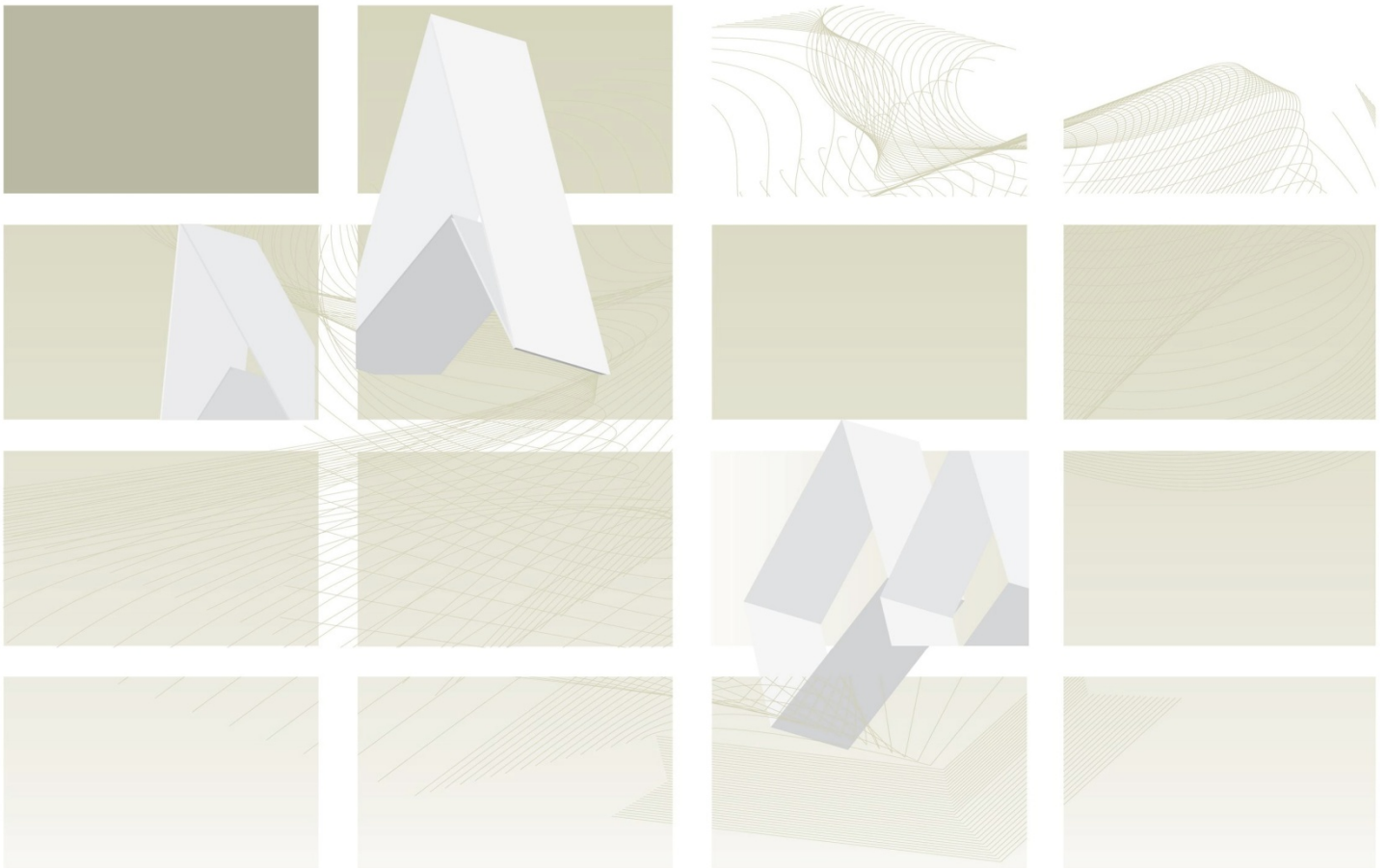




# UK Standards for Microbiology Investigations

**Review of Users' Comments** received by  
Working Group for Microbiology Standards in Clinical  
Bacteriology

## B 19 Investigation of Sinus Aspirate



Recommendations are listed as ACCEPT/ PARTIAL ACCEPT/DEFER/ NONE or PENDING

Issued by the Standards Unit, Microbiology Services, PHE

RUC | B 19 | Issue no: 1 | Issue date: 03.02.14

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## PROPOSAL FOR CHANGES

<b>Comment Number</b>	1		
<b>Date Received</b>	22/01/2008	<b>Lab Name</b>	On behalf of the UK Clinical Mycology Network
<b>Section</b>			
<b>Comment</b>			
<p>I am writing on behalf of the Steering Committee of the UKCMN, of which I am Chair. At our recent meeting we have discussed the selection of microscopy and culture plates for sinus aspirates. We feel that microscopy should be performed on all aspirates, with a comment that Calcofluor White or Blankofluor White should be used, if available. Also, selecting Sabouraud plates only for HIV, immunosuppressed (which presumably includes HIV) and ICU patients, would result in missing relevant culture positive cases. Given that there are not enormous numbers of sinus aspirates received, and that to obtain them requires an expert and uncomfortable procedure, we consider that Sabouraud plates should be included (with the incubation temperatures and durations as stated).</p> <p>We would also like to make a plea for all SMI (formerly NSM) in which fungi are relevant to be reviewed by the UKCMN. We are a PHE (formerly HPA) constituted body and we would be happy to add our logo to the cover of the published document when approved.</p>			
<b>Recommended Action</b>	<b>ACCEPT</b>		

<b>Comment Number</b>	2		
<b>Date Received</b>	08/01/2008	<b>Lab Name</b>	Glasgow Royal Infirmary
<b>Section</b>			
<b>Comment</b>			
<p>We rarely if ever get antral washings now. We used to get them regularly but I'm sure the ENT folks stopped doing them because they found them to be too uncomfortable for the patients for no additional return.</p>			
<b>Recommended Action</b>	<b>REJECT</b>		

<b>Comment Number</b>	3		
<b>Date Received</b>	31/12/2007	<b>Lab Name</b>	NPHS Cardiff
<b>Section</b>	4.4.3		
<b>Comment</b>			
<p>Sabourauds agar is only recommended for "HIV positive, Immunosuppressed or ITU patients". All specimens should have a fungal plate put up and kept for 5 days. Although most fungi will grow on chocolate and BA plates, the limited incubation time (max 48hour) recommended would miss most filamentous fungi.</p> <p>Furthermore, for immunocompromised patients, calcofluor white (or equivalent) staining should be considered.</p>			
<b>Recommended Action</b>	<p><b>ACCEPT</b> SMI (formerly NSM) updated.</p>		