



Laboratory Medicine in the Era of Disruptive Technology

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Intro to ESCMID guideline updates on C. diff Diagnosis and Evidence

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Diagnosis of C. Difficile Infection (CDI) had been a much-discussed topic as many new tests had become available. Various algorithms, performance of the C. Difficile diagnostic tests had been proposed, studied and put into clinical practice. The testing methods had great impact on the accuracy of C. difficile diagnosis. The true CDI rate does not change with different testing methods used, instead, the utilization of proper diagnostic methods produce results closer to the true CDI rate. As no single commercial test can be used as a stand-alone test for diagnosing CDI as a result of inadequate positive predictive values at low CDI prevalence. The evidence illuminating the link between the testing results produced by various diagnostic methods and the patient outcome led to the recent update of ESCMID guideline on the diagnosis of CDI.