

3° CONGRESSO NEWMICRO

....The need for speed: il
laboratorio di Microbiologia e le
Urgenze Infettive



Le nuove tecnologie per la gestione dell'urgenza/emergenza in microbiologia:

Diarree acute e infezioni da *Clostridium difficile*

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Microbiologia Clinica e Virologia
AOSMA Pordenone

Acute diarrhea in adults and children: a global perspective

World Gastroenterology Organisation Global Guidelines

February 2012

Table 1 Overview of causative agents in diarrhea

| Bacteria | Viruses | Parasites |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Diarrheagenic <i>Escherichia coli</i>● <i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>● <i>Vibrio cholerae O1</i>● <i>V. cholerae O139*</i>● <i>Shigella species</i>● <i>V. parahaemolyticus</i>● <i>Bacteroides fragilis</i>● <i>C. coli</i>● <i>C. upsaliensis</i>● Nontyphoidal <i>Salmonellae</i>● <i>Clostridium difficile</i>● <i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i>● <i>Y. pseudotuberculosis</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rotavirus● Norovirus (calicivirus)● Adenovirus (serotype 40/41)● Astrovirus● Cytomegalovirus* | <p>Protozoan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i>● <i>Giardia intestinalis</i>● <i>Microsporida*</i>● <i>Entamoeba histolytica</i>● <i>Isospora belli*</i>● <i>Cyclospora cayetanensis</i>● <i>Dientamoeba fragilis</i>● <i>Blastocystis hominis</i> <p>Helminths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i>● <i>Angiostrongylus costaricensis</i>● <i>Schistosoma mansoni, S. japonicum</i> |

February 2012

Table 1 Epidemiology of acute diarrhea: developed versus developing countries.

| Per year | Estimated episodes of acute diarrhea | Hospitalizations | Deaths |
|---------------|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| United States | 375 million — 1.4 episodes per person per year > 1.5 million child outpatient visits | 900 000 total 200 000 children | 6000 total 300 children |
| Worldwide | 1.5 billion episodes In developing countries, children < 3 y have 3 episodes per year | | 1.5–2 million children < 5 y |

Definition of acute diarrhoea

3 or more episodes a day, <14d and sample takes shape of pot

- About 20% of the population develop infectious intestinal disease per year
- Most infectious diarrhoea is a self-limited, usually viral illness
- If the diarrhoea has stopped, culture is not indicated, as recovery of pathogen is unlikely

Infectious Diarrhoea
The Role of Microbiological Examination of Faeces
Quick Reference Guide for Primary Care
For consultation and local adaptation



When to send a faecal specimen

- Persistent diarrhoea
- Blood or pus in stool (in children also consider E. coli O157)
- Post antibiotics or hospitalization
- Diarrhoea after foreign travel
- For reassurance, as diagnosis of infection may exclude other pathologies

Infectious Diarrhoea

The Role of Microbiological Examination of Faeces

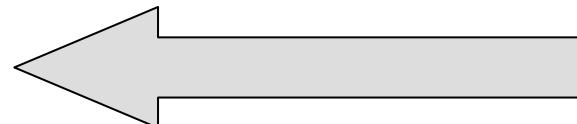
Quick Reference Guide for Primary Care

For consultation and local adaptation

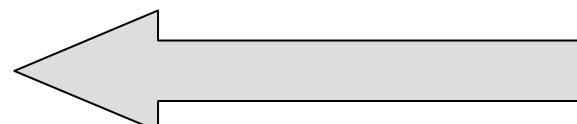
History should be included on form to help determine diagnostics methods

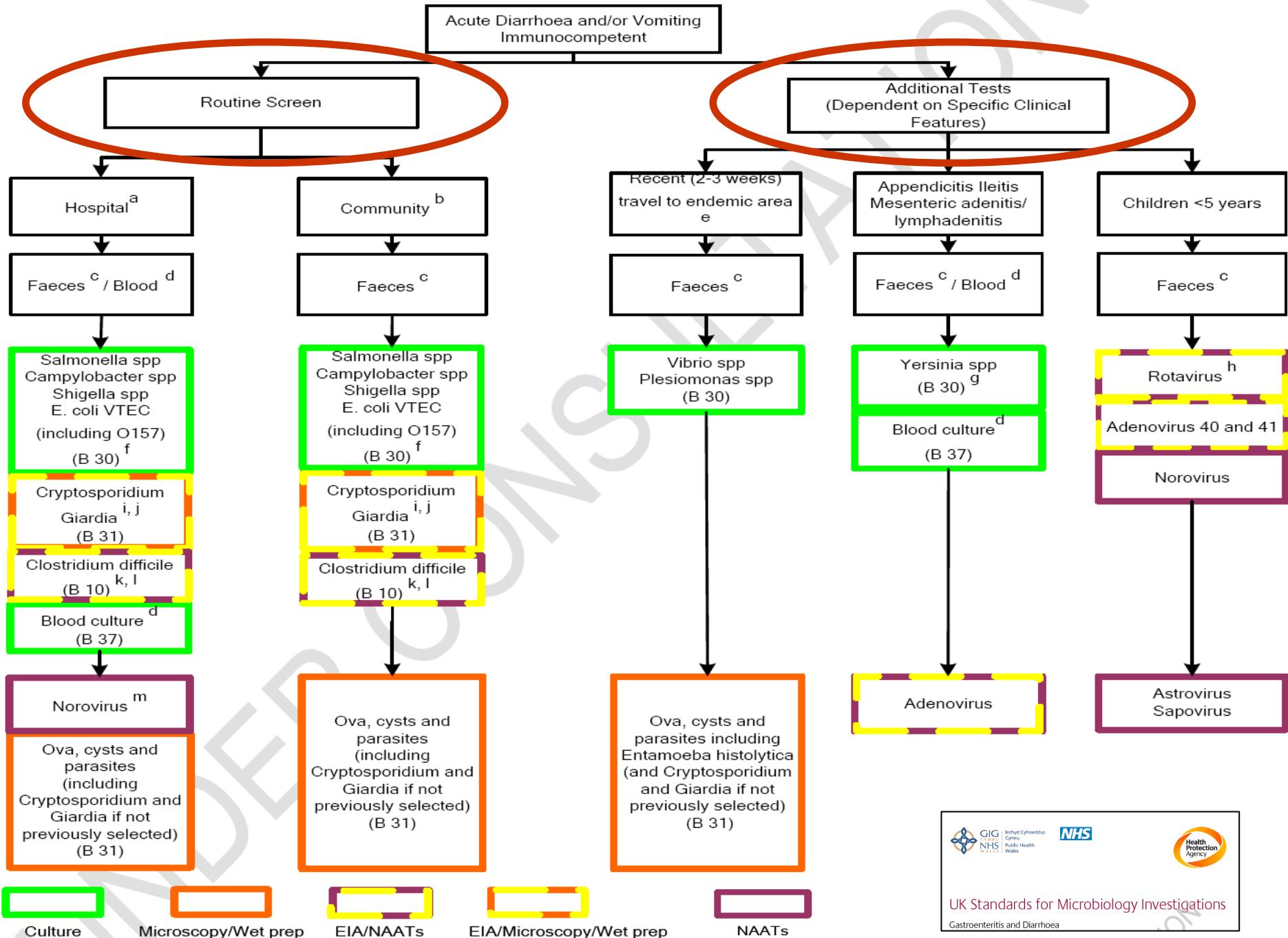
Clinical features:

- Systemic illness, fever, bloody stool
- Symptoms; duration, recurrent, chronic
- Severe abdominal pain (Campylobacter)
- Immunosuppression

**Epidemiological setting:**

- Food intake e.g. barbecue; restaurant; eggs; chicken; shellfish
- Recent foreign travel and to which country
- Recent antibiotic, PPI or hospitalisation (*C. difficile*)^{11,12}
- Family or nursing home; (Norovirus)
- Exposure to untreated water (protozoa) or animals
- Contact with other affected individuals or outbreak





Infectious Diarrhoea

The Role of Microbiological Examination of Faeces

Quick Reference Guide for Primary Care

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INTERPRETING THE LABORATORY REPORT

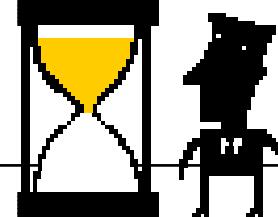
- A pathogen is found in only 2 – 5% of specimens submitted.³
- A negative report does not mean all pathogens are excluded; the pathogens sought will usually be listed.
e.g. There are no routine methods for detecting enterotoxigenic *E. coli*, the commonest cause of traveller's diarrhoea.

TREATMENT FOLLOWING REPORT

- Most patients in whom pathogens are detected will NOT require specific treatment unless systemically unwell or treatment is advised by a microbiologist or consultant in communicable disease control.
- Urgently refer all previously healthy children with acute painful, bloody diarrhoea or confirmed *E. coli* O157.
- C. difficile*: Stop unnecessary antibiotics and/or PPIs to re-establish normal flora. Prescribe metronidazole 400 or 500 mg oral tds. 70% of patients respond after 5 days; 94% in 14 days. Monitor >85 year olds as mortality double.^{13,14} If severe (characterised by T >38.5; WCC >15; rising creatinine or signs/symptoms of severe colitis) or 3rd episode, prescribe vancomycin 125mg oral qds for 10-14 days.
- Campylobacter*: Antibiotic therapy has little effect on duration of symptoms unless given very early in illness course.¹⁵
- G. lamblia* and *E. histolytica* should be treated.⁷
- Unless symptoms persist, *Blastocystis* & *Dientamoeba fragilis* do not usually require treatment in otherwise healthy.^{16,17}

For maximal clinical impact, the test should **ideally** be available on-site 24 h/day, 7 days/week, with results available within no more than a few hours. Tests that are not readily available will have limited impact on patient care.

Quanto riusciamo ad essere rapidi in caso di **diarrea acuta infettiva?**

| INDAGINI | IN UN TURNO DI LAVORO | 24-48H | 48-72H |
|--|---|---|---|
| •Microscopia a fresco •EIA su campione | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Uova, cisti, parassiti •<i>E.coli O157</i> •<i>Salmonella spp</i> •<i>Campylobacter spp</i> •<i>C.difficile</i> •<i>Virus enterotropi</i> | |  |
| Indagini culturali su terreni selettivi + EIA/ MALDI-TOF su colonia | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>E.coli O157</i> •<i>Salmonella spp</i> •<i>Campylobacter spp</i> •<i>Shigella spp.</i> •<i>Vibrio spp.</i> •<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i> | |
| Indagini culturali su terreni selettivi ed identificazione di specie | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>E.coli O157</i> •<i>Salmonella spp</i> •<i>Campylobacter spp</i> •<i>Shigella spp.</i> •<i>Vibrio spp.</i> •<i>Yersinia enterocolitica</i> |
| NAATs su campione | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>E.coli O157</i> •<i>Salmonella spp</i> •<i>Campylobacter spp</i> •<i>C.difficile</i> •<i>Virus enterotropi</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •<i>Multiplex assay platforms</i> | |



NOROVIRUS: Enzyme Immunoassays versus NAATs

Rapid commercial assays, such as enzyme immunoassays (**EIA**s), that detect norovirus antigen have recently been developed. However, these kits have **poor sensitivity (50%)** and are not recommended for diagnosing norovirus infection in sporadic cases of gastroenteritis. The RIDASCREEN Norovirus 3rd Generation EIA was recently cleared by Food and Drug Administration for preliminary identification of norovirus when testing multiple specimens during outbreaks. However, samples that test negative should be confirmed by a second technique, such as RT-qPCR. Thus, **EIA kits should not replace molecular methods during outbreak investigations.**

Guidelines for Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention of *Clostridium difficile* Infections

Enzyme Immunoassays versus NAATs

as 50% (18,23). The sensitivity of GDH antigen detection has led to its use as a screening test as part of CDI testing algorithms, although it should be noted that as many as 10% of patients with toxigenic organisms can be missed by this method. In this approach, GDH is the initial test, and GDH-negative specimens are reported as negative with no further testing done. GDH-positive specimens must undergo additional testing for *C. difficile* either by NAAT or by EIA testing followed by NAAT if the EIA results are discordant (24–27).

Evidence suggests that NAATs for toxigenic *C. difficile* are good stand-alone tests for toxigenic *C. difficile*. There are several Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved NAAT's, including

Cepheid's SmartNorovirus Rapid and accurate identification of Norovirus infection is a critical part of effective infection control.

<3h



Xpert C. difficile detects the presence of toxin-producing *Clostridium difficile* (027/NAP/BI).

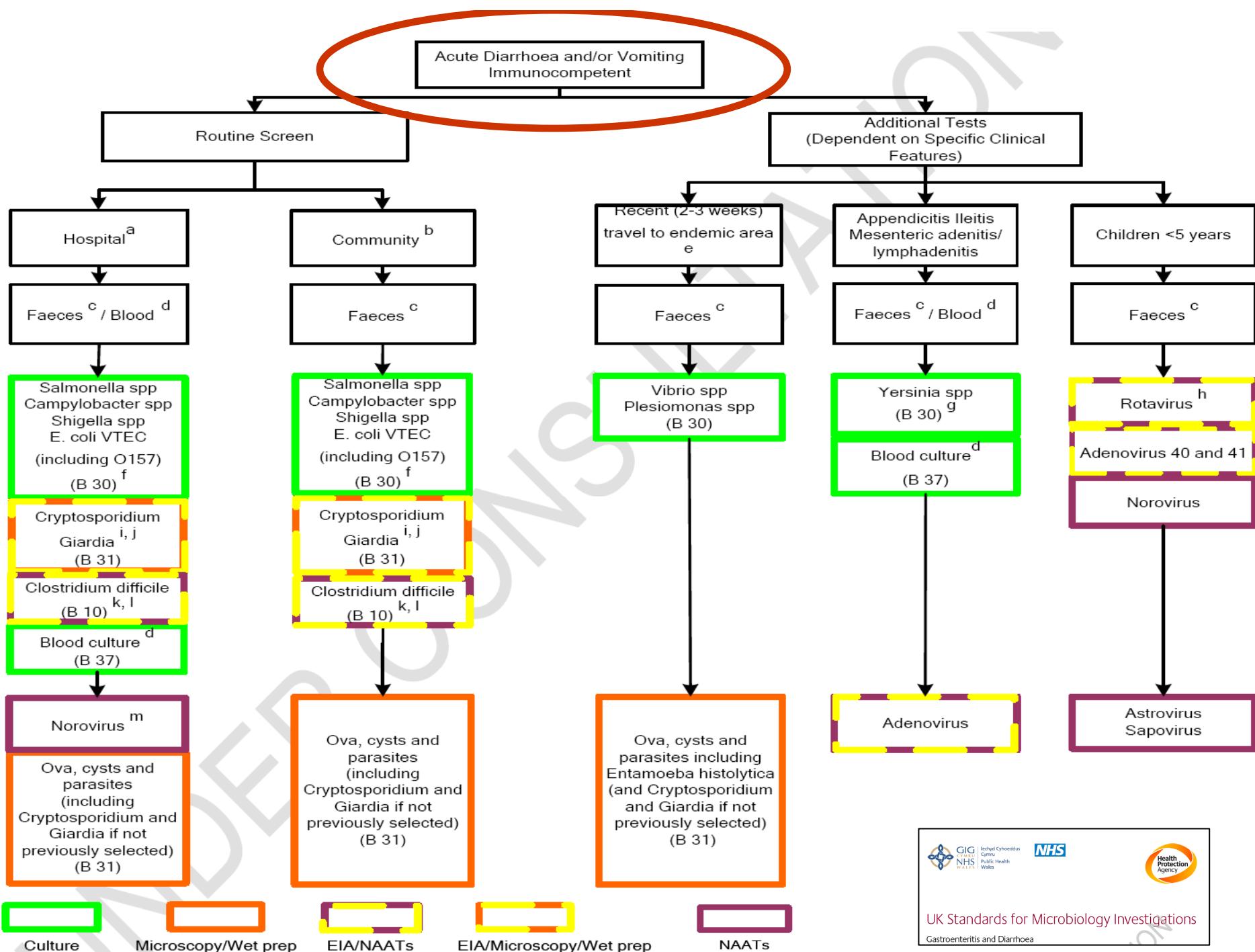
<1h



illumigene[®] *C. difficile* Assay

<1h







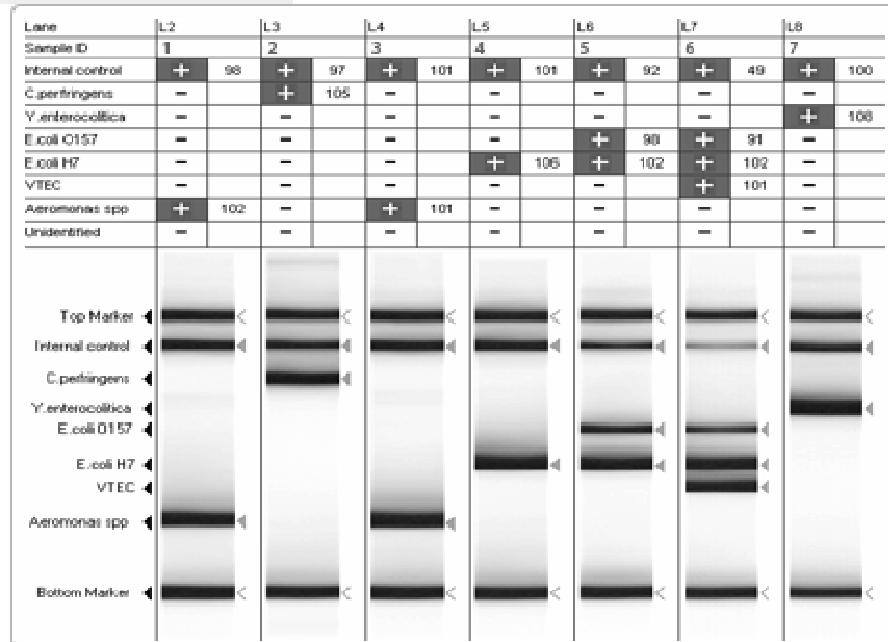
ACE

IVD

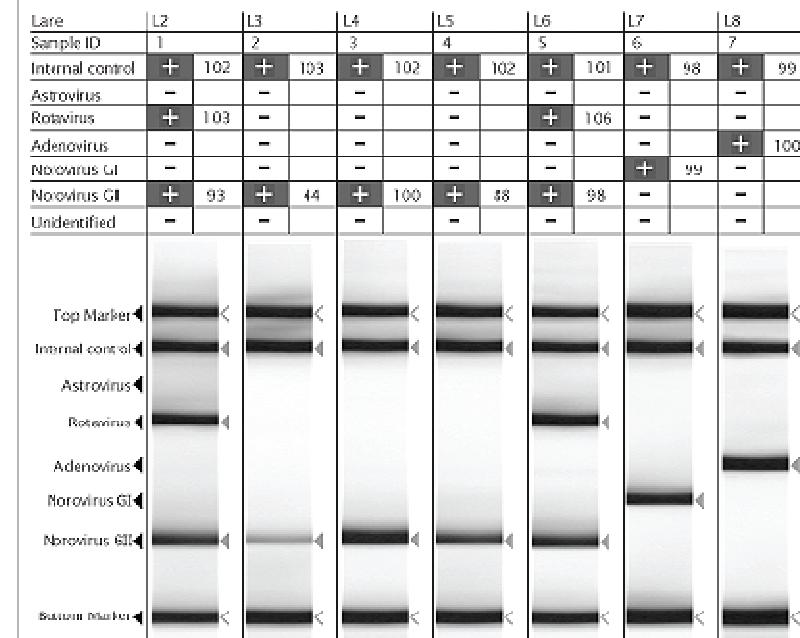


Seeplex® Diarrhoea ACE Detection

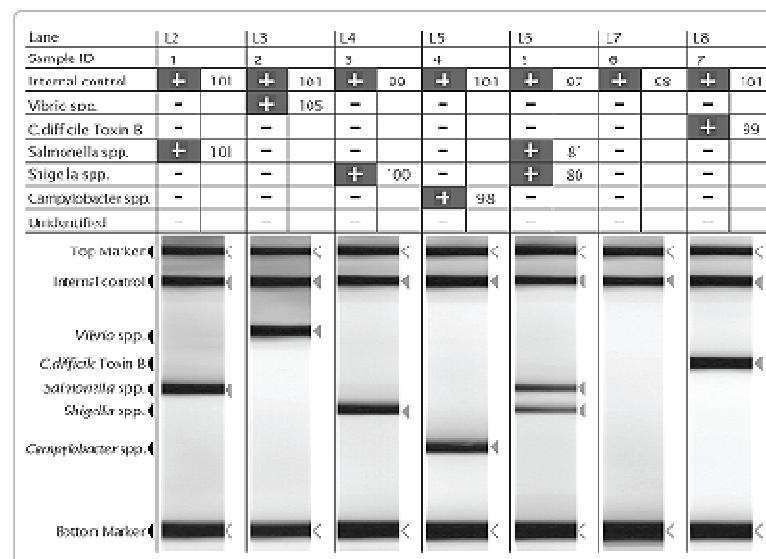
Bacterial panel 1 [Panel B1]



Virus panel [Panel V]



Bacterial panel 2 [Panel B2]



For Research Use Only



Nanosphere
SIGN UP



Verigene® Enteric Pathogens Test utilizes the Verigene System's multiplexing capabilities and automated workflow to deliver a rapid, easy-to-use, robust, cost-effective alternative to stool culture and other enteric pathogen identification methods.

FilmArray® GI Panel

For Research Use Only
Not for Use in Diagnostic Procedures



Currently in Development

Information Sheet

For Research Use Only

The FilmArray: User-Friendly Multiplex PCR

The FilmArray GI Panel tests for a comprehensive panel of common gastrointestinal (GI) pathogens that cause infectious diarrhea. The FilmArray integrates sample preparation, amplification, detection, and analysis into one simple system that requires approximately 5 minutes of hands-on time and has a total run time of 1 hour.

- Simple: ~5 minutes of hands-on time
- Easy: No precise measuring or pipetting required
- Fast: Turnaround time of one hour
- Comprehensive: 23 target GI panel

Idaho Technology is now

BIO FIRE™
DIAGNOSTICS, INC.



Viruses

- Adenovirus F40/41
- Human Astrovirus
- Norovirus GI/GII



Protozoa

- *Cryptosporidium*
- *Cyclospora cayetanensis*

250µL di campione

nel

targets:

- *Salmonella*
- *Vibrio*
- *Vibrio cholerae*
- *Yersinia enterocolitica*

i/Shigella

coli

E. coli

ing

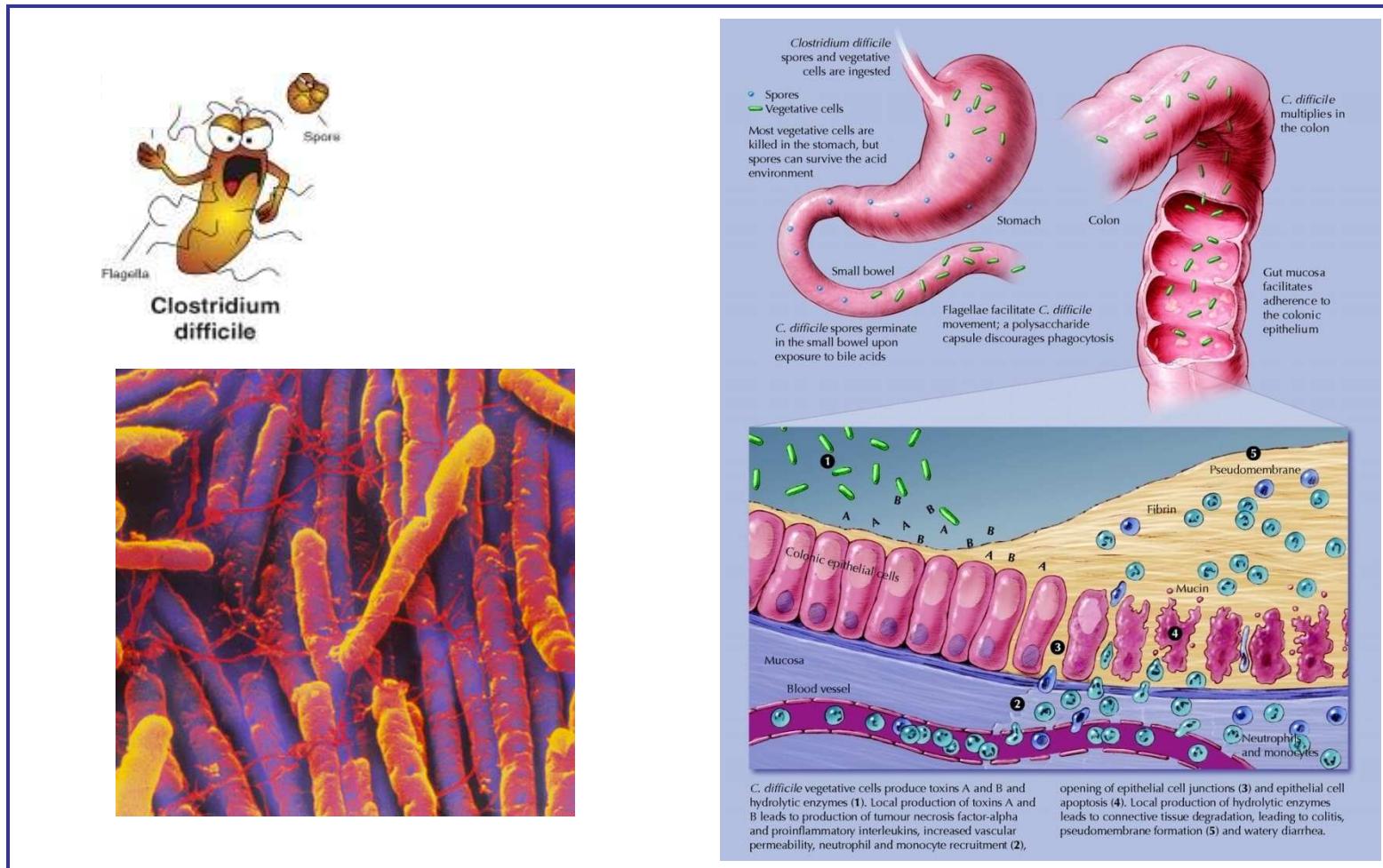
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- *Shigella/Enteroinvasive E. coli* (EIEC)
- *Enteropathogenic E. coli* (EAEC)
- *E. coli* O157

- Rotavirus A
- Sapovirus

- *Entamoeba histolytica*
- *Giardia lamblia*

Quanto è difficile questo *Clostridium*?



Clostridium difficile infections (CDI)

Diarrea e presenza di *C.difficile* tossinogenico accertato con test microbiologici

Diagnosi clinica o radiologica di megacolon tossico e presenza di *C.difficile* tossinogenico accertato con test microbiologici

Visualizzazione di pseudomembrane o diagnosi istopatologica di colite pseudomembranosa



2001-2003: Quebec >22 casi/1000 ricoveri; letalità 6.9%

STATI UNITI

N° diagnosi di CDI nel 2000 134.36

N° diagnosi di CDI nel 2005 **291.303**

INGHILTERRA

N° esami positivi per la tossina di C.difficile <2000 nel 1986/1987

N° esami positivi per la tossina di C.difficile **>12.000 nel 2000/2001**

Risk factors - Antibiotic therapy.

- More than 90% of health-care-associated *C difficile* infections occur after or during antimicrobial therapy.
- Almost **all antimicrobial agents** have been associated with *C. difficile* Associated Disease (CDAD).
- **Broad-spectrum antimicrobial agents**, which have a greater effect on the normal intestinal flora, are more likely to lead to CDAD.
- However, several later studies found **fluoroquinolones** to be more strongly linked to CDAD than any other antimicrobial agents, including clindamycin and beta-lactam/beta-lactamase.
- The risk is also greater when patients receive multiple antimicrobial agents and undergo a longer course of therapy.

Other risk factors (cited in at least three studies) are:

- Age greater than 65 years
- Severe underlying illness
- Nasogastric intubation
- Antiulcer medications.
- Longer hospital stay.

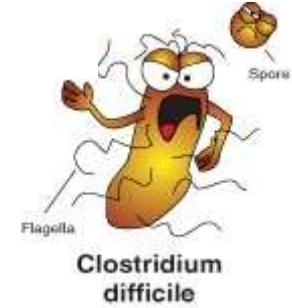
A recently identified strain of *C. difficile*, designated North American pulsed-field gel electrophoresis type 1 (**NAP 1**) and PCR ribotype 027 (**Type 027**) has caused numerous outbreaks of clinically severe disease in North America and Europe.

NAP 1 produces **16 times more** toxin A and **23 times more** toxin B than other strains, possibly due to a deletion in a negative regulatory gene. In addition, NAP 1 **produces a third toxin**, known as binary toxin, although its significance is unknown.

First Report of Hypervirulent Strains Polymerase Chain Reaction Ribotypes 027 and 078 Causing Severe *Clostridium difficile* Infection in Italy

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Antonella Tuscano,¹ Caterina Parlato,³
Lucina Fossati,³ Matteo Moro,²
Roberto Serra,^{3,b} and Daniela M. Cirillo^{1,b}**

¹Emerging Bacterial Pathogens Unit and ²Chief Medical Office, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Milan, and ³Microbiology Laboratory, Azienda Ospedaliero–Universitaria San Giovanni Battista, Turin, Italy



Soggetti adulti asintomatici:

C. difficile si riscontra nel 3-4% dei casi, circa lo 0,6% produce tossine

Soggetti ospedalizzati:

C. difficile si riscontra nel 7-25% dei casi, circa lo 2-8% produce tossine

n.b: popolazioni a rischio emergenti bambini da **2 a 12 anni e puerpere**. Al di sotto di 1 anno stato di portatore asintomatico per immaturità recettoriale.

CDI: RECURRENCE OR RELAPSE?

Recurrence is one of the most frustrating and challenging complications of CDAD

Be it a reinfection or relapse, 12% to 24% of patient develop a second episode of CDAD within 2 months of the initial diagnosis.

C. difficile: impatto economico

Table 4. Cost of antibiotic therapy for *C. difficile* infection

| | Cost per dose | Regimen | Cost per 10-day regimen |
|---|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Metronidazole 500 mg | \$0.73 | 500 mg three times a day | \$22.00 |
| Vancomycin 125 mg pills | \$17.00 | 125 mg four times a day | \$680.00 |
| Vancomycin 125 mg IV compounded for oral | \$2.50– \$10.00 | 125 mg four times a day | \$100.00–\$400.00 |
| Fidaxomicin 200 mg | \$140.00 | 200 mg twice a day | \$2,800.00 |

IV, intravenous.
Vancomycin IV form can be compounded for oral use as well as used for enema therapy.

Am J Gastroenterol advance online publication, 26 February 2013; doi:10.1038/ajg.2013.4



Since 2006, the **European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)** has been addressing the new CDI situation.

The working group recently published a systematic review of infection control measures to **limit the spread of *C. difficile*** that can be used for the elaboration of evidence-based guidelines in Member States.

Vonberg RP et al. Infection control measures to limit the spread of Clostridium difficile. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2008;14 Suppl 5:2-20.



The paper underlines the **specific difficulties to prevent *C. difficile* transmission** linked to the capacity of *C. difficile* to form spores that survive for months in the environment, may be excreted in large numbers by affected patients, cannot be destroyed by standard alcohol-based hand disinfection and persist despite usual environmental cleaning agents.

Vonberg RP et al. Infection control measures to limit the spread of Clostridium difficile. Clin Microbiol Infect. 2008;14 Suppl 5:2-20.

Reservoir e veicoli di spore di CD



CATEGORIE PER L'IMPLEMENTAZIONE NELLA PRATICA CLINICA: Protocollo mnemonico **SIDIT**

- S** **SOSPETTO:** in assenza di altra potenziale causa di diarrea, sospettare l'origine infettiva
- I** **ISOLAMENTO:** ove possibile isolare il paziente e consultare il CIO
- D** **DPI:** usare guanti e sovracamici monouso per tutti i contatti del paziente
- I** **IGIENE** delle mani: dopo ogni manovra sul paziente lavaggio con acqua/sapone antisettico
- T** **TEST:** eseguire tempestivamente il test per la ricerca di *C.difficile* tossinogenico



A practical guidance document for
Clostridium difficile toxin laboratory testing
August 24, 2010

The laboratory diagnosis of *C. difficile* remains a challenge to many microbiology laboratories.

Diagnosi di CDI: protocolli diagnostici

Table 1. Summary and strength of recommendations

| Diagnostic tests |
|--|
| 1. Only stools from patients with diarrhea should be tested for <i>Clostridium difficile</i> . (Strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) |
| 2. Nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT) for <i>C. difficile</i> toxin genes such as PCR are superior to toxins A+B EIA testing as a standard diagnostic test for CDI. (Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) |
| 3. Glutamate dehydrogenase (GDH) screening tests for <i>C difficile</i> can be used in two- or three-step screening algorithms with subsequent toxin A and B EIA testing, but the sensitivity of such strategies is lower than NAATs. (Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) |
| 4. Repeat testing should be discouraged. (Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) |
| 5. Testing for cure should not be done. (Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) |

Am J Gastroenterol advance online publication, 26 February 2013; doi:10.1038/ajg.2013.4

Diagnosi di CDI: protocolli diagnostici

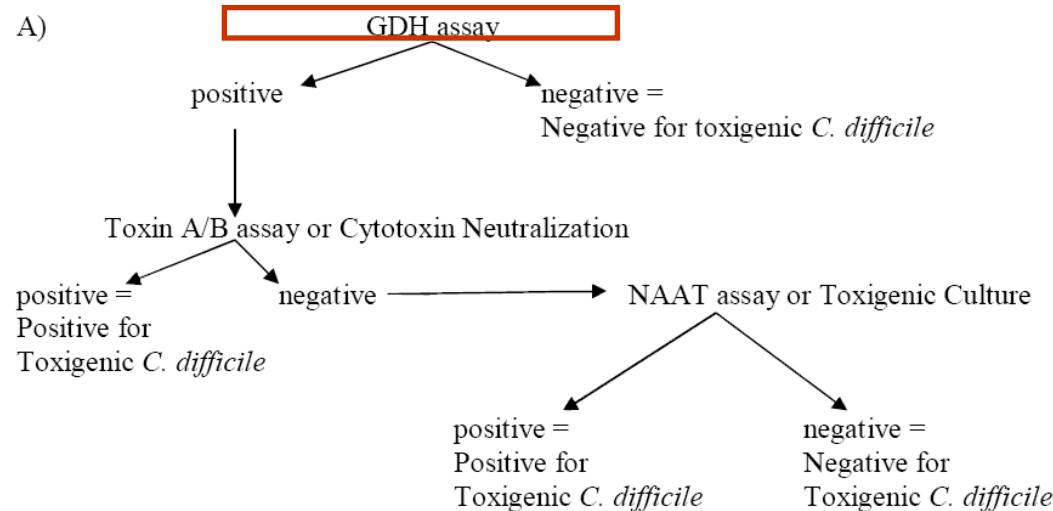
TABLE 1. Laboratory Tests for *Clostridium difficile* Infection

| Test | Substance detected | Time required | Sensitivity, ^a % | Specificity, ^a % | Concerns and comments |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Cytotoxin | Toxin B | 1–3 days | 95 | 90–95 | Long time required and technical demands; rarely used now |
| Toxin culture | Toxigenic <i>C. difficile</i> | 3–5 days | >95 | 80–90 | Long time required and technical demands; rarely used in US |
| EIA toxin A or A/B | Toxin A or A/B | Hours | 75–80 | 97–98 | False-negative results, but rapid and not technically difficult; used by most US laboratories in 2008 |
| EIA GDH | <i>C. difficile</i> | Hours | 95–100 | 70–80 | Some variations in reported sensitivity and nonspecificity |
| EIA GDH and toxin A/B | <i>C. difficile</i> and <i>C. difficile</i> toxin | Hours | 95–100 | 97–98 | Results depend on the toxin test |
| RT-PCR | Toxigenic <i>C. difficile</i> | Hours | >98 | 80–99 | Nonspecificity attributed to carriers |

NOTE. EIA, enzyme immunoassay; GDH, glutamine dehydrogenase; RT-PCR, reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction.

* Reported data for sensitivity and specificity are based on multiple reports. It is assumed that 20%–30% of hospitalized patients are colonized with *C. difficile* and that 50% of strains are toxigenic. Clinical correlations are always important but are especially important with RT-PCR and EIA tests for GDH.

A significant number of clinical laboratories are currently utilizing **EIA for toxin A/B** testing due to its ease of use. However, there is a wealth of information now available indicating that utilizing this **test alone is not appropriate** for toxigenic *C. difficile* detection.



Diagnosi di CDI: nuove tecnologie a confronto

- *GDH-TOXIN A/B combination*
- *NAATs as stand alone*

GDH-TOXIN A/B combination versus NAATs: CARATTERISTICHE A CONFRONTO

| <i>GDH-TOXIN A/B combination</i> | <i>NAATs</i> |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Test immunocromatografico <i>on demand</i> e <i>all in one</i> (GDH+TOX)2. Non richiede strumenti dedicati3. Tempi tecnici di esecuzione: circa 30 minuti4. Costo inferiore ai NAATs, ma necessità di disporre comunque della PCR5. I risultati dubbi (GDH+/TOX-) vanno confermati con PCR6. Necessità di <u>rigorosa selezione del campione</u> per ridurre i costi ed <u>evitare ripetizioni</u> dovute a risultati dissociati7. Non Riconosce i ceppi ad alta virulenza e la produzione di tossina binaria (ribotipo 027)8. La conservazione del campione può influire sul risultato delle tossine (per degradazione) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Test molecolare <i>on demand</i> e <i>all in one</i>2. Richiede strumento dedicato3. Tempi tecnici di esecuzione: circa 45 minuti4. Costo elevato, ma coerente con <i>performance</i> del test5. Stand alone test: il risultato non richiede alcuna ulteriore conferma6. Necessità di rigorosa selezione del campione per appropriatezza diagnostica e contenimento dei costi7. Possibilità di riconoscere i ceppi ad alta virulenza e la produzione di tossina binaria (ribotipo 027)8. Risultato non influenzato dalla degradazione del campione (tossine) |

Guidelines for Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention of *Clostridium difficile* Infections

Table 2. Diagnostic testing for *C. difficile*

| Test | Sensitivity | Specificity | Availability | Expense ^a | Utilization |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|--|
| <i>C. difficile</i> culture | Low | Moderate | Limited | \$5–10 | No diagnostic use; only toxigenic organisms cause disease |
| Toxigenic culture | High | High | Limited | \$10–30 | Reference method Epidemiologic tool Limited diagnostic use |
| CCNA | High | High | Limited | \$15–25 | Reference method Limited diagnostic use |
| GDH | High | Low | Widely | \$5–15 | Diagnostically as a screening test; must be confirmed |
| Toxin EIA tests | Low | High | Widely | \$5–15 | Must detect toxins A + B; inferior sensitivity |
| NAATs | High | High | Widely | \$20–50 | Use only in acute disease; false positives of concern |

CCNA, *C. difficile* cytotoxin neutralization assay; GDH, glutamate dehydrogenase; EIA, enzyme immunoassay; NAAT, nucleic acid amplification tests.

^aCost of goods; does not reflect laboratory charges.

COST SAVINGS

- REDUCED ANTIBIOTIC USE
- IMPROVED CLINICAL OUTCOME
- SHORTER HOSPITALIZATION
- USE FEWER OF OTHER DIAGNOSTIC TEST
- PUBLIC BENEFIT (NOT JUST COST)





CONTESTUALIZZAZARE LE SCELTE

- Quanto costerebbe l'algoritmo ***GDH-TOXIN A/B + eventuale molecolare?*** Quanto costerebbe la ***PCR stand alone?***
- Dove mandare il campione per il test di conferma sui risultati discordanti? e i tempi di esecuzione?
- Possibilità di eseguire il test in automazione (se il numero di campioni è notevole)



LAVORARE SULL'APPROPRIATEZZA

- Solo feci formate*
- Nessun controllo dopo precedente positività**
- Scoraggiare ripetizione di un test negativo***

GImPIOS, vol 1,n°2 2011

*In caso di sospetta CDI e in assenza di diarrea la diagnosi si basa essenzialmente su criteri clinici e/o radiologici

**anche in caso di recidive dopo trattamento, ed escludere sempre altre cause di diarrea (counseling)

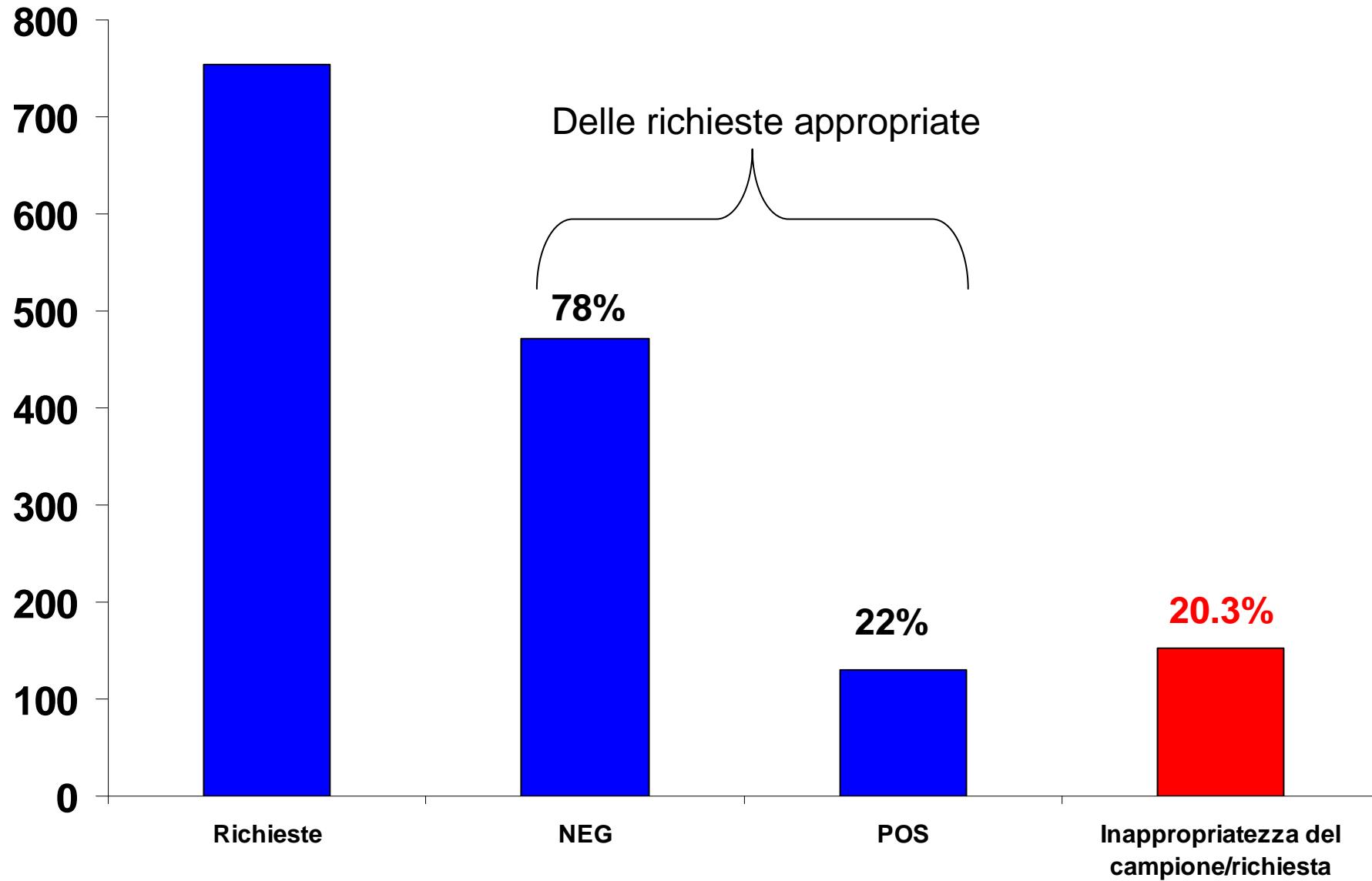
***In relazione alla sensibilità del metodo utilizzato.

Appendix 2: The Bristol Stool Form Scale (Bristol Stool Chart)

| | | |
|--------|--|---|
| Type 1 |  | Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass) |
| Type 2 |  | Sausage-shaped but lumpy |
| Type 3 |  | Like a sausage but with cracks on its surface |
| Type 4 |  | Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft |
| Type 5 |  | Soft blobs with clear-cut edges (passed easily) |
| Type 6 |  | Fluffy pieces, a mushy stool |
| Type 7 |  | Watery, no solid pieces ENTIRELY LIQUID |

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PORDENONE 2012



Appropriateness and costs

Today everyone is used to “cheap microbiology” - every patient can get every test.

In the future, expensive diagnostics will be offered - not every patient can get every test.

Clinical Microbiology Services play a role

Table 1. Early diagnosis

| Recommendations | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Promptly perform tests for <i>Clostridium difficile</i> toxins (\pm the bacterium) in stool specimens in each case of nosocomial diarrhoea and for individuals who are admitted with diarrhoea acquired outside the hospital. Suggested testing of diarrhoeal stool samples as soon as possible has been recommended. Only when a recurrence has been suspected, should repeat testing be done. In addition, if a patient has had a recent course of antibiotics, repeat testing should be done. |
| 2 | Perform tests for <i>C. difficile</i> toxin in all patients with diarrhoea (uniformly). Testing should be performed by enzyme immunoassay (EIA). |
| 3 | Do not repeat testing for <i>C. difficile</i> toxin in the same patients unless they have been admitted to intensive care (in which cases), or (b) in an attempt to identify the source of infection so that typing can be done effectively. |
| 4 | Faecal cultures should not be done in patients with diarrhoea. |



•Promptly perform Tests

•EIA for toxin A/B
NOT STAND ALONE

•Stop repeated testing

•Not formed stools

•Not test of cure after treatment

**IMPROVE
PATIENT
MANAGEMENT**

**RAPID
REPORTING**

**CLINICALLY
RELEVANT
REPORTING**

**CONTROL
C.DIFFICILE
SPREADS**



3° CONGRESSO NEWMICRO

**....The need for speed: il
laboratorio di Microbiologia e le
Urgenze Infettive**



GRAZIE

Manuela Avolio

Microbiologia Clinica e Virologia
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