



Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Standing Committee Guidance

Acceptable ranges for control strains used to monitor the performance of testing *Campylobacter* species.

The campylobacter strains that are commercially available are mainly used to control growth conditions and not to monitor the performance of susceptibility testing. The strains recommended for susceptibility testing is *Campylobacter jejuni* ATCC 33560 which is available from the National Collection of Type Culture (NCTC). It is unlikely that diagnostic laboratories would keep fresh subcultures of this isolate and therefore a delay in susceptibility testing is likely. To avoid delay and the extra cost of purchasing strains BSAC has decided that acceptable ranges for *Staphylococcus aureus* NCTC 6571 and ATCC 25923 would be provided.

Acceptable ranges on Iso-Sensititest agar supplemented with 5% defibrinated horse blood and 20mg/L NAD incubated at 42°C in microaerophilic conditions for 24h are as follows:

Antimicrobial agent	Disc content (ug)	Acceptable range (mm)	
		NCTC 6571	ATCC 25923
Nalidixic acid	30	12-17	14-17
Erythromycin	5	22-27	20-25
Ciprofloxacin	1	22-26	22-26