

06. SPECIFIC TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE NRC FOR BURKHOLDERIA CEPACIA COMPLEX

AIMS

- Each National Reference Centre (NRC) must meet both the general and the specific terms of reference.
- In the specific terms of reference, the NRC tasks dedicated to each selected pathogen or group of pathogens are described.
- These aim to guarantee the knowledge, the know-how and the epidemiological surveillance expertise of each NRC.
- The task list is not exhaustive and can be modified in function of the requirements and the evolution of knowledge and techniques.
- In the event a NRC is unable to perform a specific task, this can be subcontracted to preserve the knowledge in the NRC. If this is the case, quality of the subcontracted task has to be proven and assured.
- Each list of specific terms of reference is divided into three parts: 1) a reminder of the specific missions, 2) a description of the tasks that the NRC must be able to do including the competencies and 3) a list of the tasks that will be asked in a particular context.
- The type of analysis indicated for each specific pathogen in each particular situation (diagnosis or confirmation, typing, sensitivity to antimicrobial substances, virulence...) is defined.
- The collaboration with national and international surveillance systems (e.g. ECDC) and when relevant with other reference centres (European Medicines Agency, food safety reference centres, veterinary reference centres, ...) is also a priority.

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SPECIFIC MISSIONS

1. To confirm the *Burkholderia cepacia* complex identification and other non-fermenters.
2. To perform the genotyping.
3. To monitor the antibiotic susceptibility.
4. To participate in national surveillance, transfer microbiological data (through e-health reporting) and contribute to the presentation and interpretation of the results in a public health approach.
5. To interact with epidemiologists and other NRC's with the aim to sustain/adapt the use of the various outputs (with regards to quality of care, recommendations for control/prevention, ...).

THE NRC MUST BE ABLE TO (LEVEL OF COMPETENCES)

1. Confirm the diagnosis by classical and molecular techniques.
2. Determine the *Burkholderia cepacia* complex species and other non-fermenters present.
3. Perform genotyping (RAPD or equivalent fast technique, MLST or cgMLST, ...) and compare the genotypes in order to detect the presence of a clone.
4. Determine the antibiotic susceptibility.
5. Have access to whole genome sequencing and expertise in genus, species and strain specific bioinformatics analysis.
6. To manage a collection of representative strains.

TASKS THAT WILL BE ASKED IN A PARTICULAR CONTEXT

1. To confirm the identification of *Burkholderia cepacia* complex and other fermenters at species level, when asked.
2. To monitor the antibiotic susceptibility relevant to curative and preventive care, when asked.
3. To collaborate with existing networks on cystic fibrosis and associated diseases and participate to a joint scientific output.
4. To assist in the identification and typing of other difficult to identify non-fermenters found in expectorations of cystic fibrosis patients, when relevant.