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## The Changing Landscape of Antimicrobial Stewardship: Rapid Diagnostics

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### Conflicts of Interest

- Merck & Co, Inc.
  - Speakers' bureau
- Allergan plc.
  - Advisory board

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### Learning Objectives

- Upon completion of this presentation, the pharmacist should be able to:
  - Compare benefits and limitations of available rapid diagnostic testing
  - Discuss integration of rapid diagnostic testing into an antimicrobial stewardship program
  - Evaluate the impact of rapid diagnostic testing through measuring cost and outcomes

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### Outline

- Case presentation without RDT
- Case presentation with RDT
- Why RDT in infectious diseases?
- Available RDT techniques and PCT
- Integrating RDT into an ASP
- Impact of RDT on clinical and economic outcomes

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### Abbreviations

• ASP: antimicrobial stewardship program	• MRSA: methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus
• AST: antimicrobial susceptibility testing	• MSSA: methicillin-susceptible Staphylococcus aureus
• BCID: blood culture identification	• RDT: rapid diagnostic testing
• CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	• PCR: polymerase chain reaction
• CDI: <i>Clostridium difficile</i> infection	• PCT: procalcitonin testing
• IDSA: Infectious Diseases Society of America	• PNA FISH: peptic nucleic acid fluorescent in situ hybridization
• MALDI-TOF MS: matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight mass spectrometry	• SHEA: Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
• MCA: morphokinetic cellular analysis	• SIDP: Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists
• MIC: minimum inhibitory concentration	• VRE: vancomycin-resistant enterococci

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### Case Presentation without RDT

- A 64-year-old man was admitted to the hospital from home for the management of sepsis.
- Blood cultures were obtained and broad-spectrum antibiotics were started.
- Three days later, the blood cultures grew highly susceptible bacteria as determined by a microbiology and sensitivity report.
- The ASP pharmacist recommended a change to a narrower-spectrum antibiotic.

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### Case Presentation without RDT

- The attending physician accepted the recommendation of the ASP pharmacist.
- However, the patient developed CDI while receiving broad-spectrum antibiotics
- The patient completed an initial course of broad-spectrum antibiotic followed by a course of narrow-spectrum antibiotic in the hospital, in addition to vancomycin for CDI.
- The patient was discharged home one week later than anticipated.

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### Case Presentation with RDT

- A 64-year-old man was admitted to the hospital from home for the management of sepsis.
- Blood cultures were obtained and broad-spectrum antibiotics were started.
- The next day, the blood cultures grew highly susceptible bacteria as determined by a new PCR-based rapid identification method.
- The ASP pharmacist recommended a change to a narrower-spectrum antibiotic.

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### Case Presentation with RDT

- The attending physician accepted the recommendation of the ASP pharmacist.
- The patient completed a course of narrow-spectrum antibiotic in the hospital.
- The patient was discharged home without further complications.

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### Why RDT in Infectious Diseases?

- Inappropriate use of antimicrobials lead to:
  - ↑ antimicrobial resistance
  - ↑ adverse effects including CDI
  - ↑ mortality
  - ↑ cost

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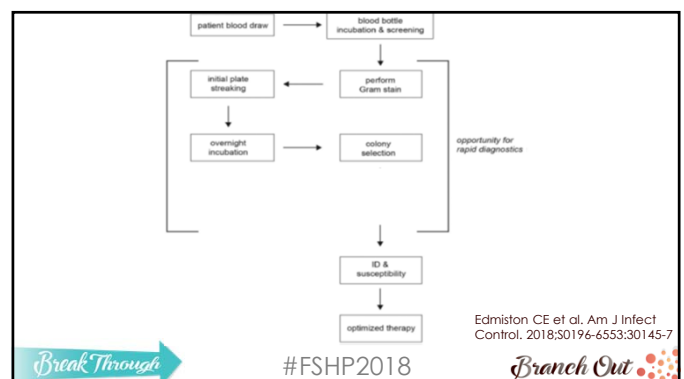
### Why RDT in Infectious Diseases?

- To improve the diagnostic capabilities by expediting the identification of microorganisms
- Standard techniques
  - Require at least 48 to 72 hours for final results
- RDT
  - Provide results within hours → **Game changers!**

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### Available RDT Techniques and PCT

- Singleplex PCR or PCR
- Multiplex PCR
- Nanoparticle probe technology or microarray
- MALDI-TOF MS
- PNA FISH
- MCA with FISH
- Comparison of RDT techniques
- PCT

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### Singleplex PCR or PCR

- Uses a fluorescently labeled probe with one set of primers to amplify a piece of target DNA
- Amplified DNA segment is then identified
- Combines amplification and detection into one process
- Allows for identification of a single pathogen or single resistance marker
- Applications: MRSA, *C. difficile*, *N. gonorrhoeae*, *C. trachomatis*

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### Multiplex PCR

- Uses a fluorescently labeled probe with >1 set of primers
- Can be used for simultaneous detection of multiple organisms and resistance markers
- Applications: The FilmArray BCID tests for 24 organisms and some antimicrobial resistance genes

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### Nanoparticle Probe Technology or Microarray

- Combines nucleic acid extraction and PCR amplification
- Allows for hybridization of target DNA to capture oligonucleotides on a microarray
- Provides an automated qualitative analysis of results
- Automated optical imaging of the microarray determines the presence or absence of specific sequences
- Applications: Blood culture gram-positive and blood culture gram-negative tests

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### MALDI-TOF MS

- Analyzes thousands of samples per day from a variety of sources
- Results in ionization and disintegration of a target molecule which produce a molecular signature
- Provides a profile or fingerprint of the organism that is compared with those of well-characterized organisms in database
- Pathogen identification is based on a microbe's proteome
- Applications: multiple bacterial and fungal pathogens

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### PNA FISH

- Uses synthetic oligonucleotide fluorescence-labeled probes that bind to species-specific RNA
- Allows rapid hybridization of species-specific ribosomal RNA of the target pathogen
- Relies on fluorescence microscope to detect fluorescence
- Applications: PNA FISH and QuickFISH using a variety of probes for select bacteria and *Candida* spp.

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## MCA with FISH

- Novel technology that received FDA clearance in 2017
- Provides fast phenotypic AST by
  - exposing the identified organism to antibiotics in an automated system
  - Measuring the dynamic features of the bacteria as the bacteria respond to antibiotics
- Software analysis of these features generates MICs!
- Applications: MCA with FISH

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## Comparison of RDT Techniques

Diagnostic capabilities for commercially available rapid ID/AST technologies in bloodstream infections.

Technology	Identification (ID)	Detection of antibiotic resistance	Antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) with MIC	Turnaround time to result from positive blood culture
Singleplex PCR	Yes	No	No	1-3 hours
Multiplex PCR	Yes	Yes*	No	1-2 hours
Microarray	Yes	Yes	No	2-5 hours
MALDI-TOF	Yes	No	No	24 hours
PNA-FISH	Yes	No	No	1 hour
Integrated MCA w/FISH ID	Yes	Yes†	Yes	1.25 hours for ID and 5 hours for AST

\*This capability is specific to certain assays only, targeted by genotypic resistance markers.

†Resistance detected through phenotypic methods, irrespective of genotype.

PNA-FISH, peptide nucleic acid fluorescence in situ hybridization; MALDI-TOF, matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of-flight; MCA, morphokinetic cellular analysis; MIC, minimum inhibitory concentration; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

Edmiston CE et al. Am J Infect Control. 2018;S0196-6553:30145-7

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Organism	Detection Time, h	Technology	Manufacturer	Batching	Used for Pure Colony	Automated	CLIA Designation	Trade Name
Gram-positive								
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> , CoNS	0.3	PNA QuickFISH	AdvanDx	No	No	No	High complexity	S. aureus/CoNS PNA QuickFISH
MRSA	0.1	Immunochromatography	Alexa ScanBorough, Inc	No	Yes	No	Moderate complexity	Alexa PBP2a Culture Colony Test
<i>S. aureus</i>	0.2	Immunochromatography	Alexa ScanBorough, Inc	No	No	No	Not rated	ScanSHOW S. aureus
MSSA, MRSA	20-26	Chromogenic medium	BD	No	Yes	No	High complexity	BD, CHROMagar MRSA 2
MRSA	2	PCR	Roche Diagnostics USA	Yes	No	Yes	High complexity	LightCycler MRSA
MSSA, MRSA, CoNS	2	Multiplex PCR	BD GeneOhm	Yes	No	Yes	High complexity	BD GeneOhm Staph SR
MSSA, MRSA, CoNS	1	Multiplex PCR	Cepheid	No	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	Xpert MRSA/SA BC
MSSA, MRSA	1	Multiplex PCR	Cepheid	No	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	Xpert MRSA/SA SBT1
<i>S. aureus</i> , <i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	2.5	Multiplex PCR	Nanosphere	No	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	Vergence BC-CP
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> , <i>Enterococcus faecium</i>	0.5	PNA QuickFISH	AdvanDx	No	No	No	High complexity	Enterococcus faecalis/OF PNA QuickFISH
<i>Clostridium difficile</i>	1	LAMP	Mandiant Bioscience	Yes	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	fluoroGene C. difficile
<i>C. difficile</i>	2	PCR	BD GeneOhm	Yes	No	Yes	Not rated	BD GeneOhm Cdiff Assay
<i>C. difficile</i>	0.5	Multiplex PCR	Cepheid	No	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	Xpert C. difficile
<i>C. difficile</i>	0.75	Multiplex PCR	Cepheid	No	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	Xpert C. difficile/BCI
<i>C. difficile</i>	3	PCR	Gen-Probe Prodesse	Yes	No	Yes	Not rated	ProGeno Cdt Assay
<i>Staphylococcus</i> spp., <i>Streptococcus</i> spp., <i>E. faecalis</i> , <i>E. faecium</i> , <i>Micrococcus</i> spp., <i>Listeria</i> spp.	2.5	Multiplex PCR	Nanosphere	No	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	Vergence BC-CP

Organism	Detection Time, h	Technology	Manufacturer	Batching	Used for Pure Colony	Automated	CLIA Designation	Trade Name
Gram-negative								
<i>Escherichia coli</i> , <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> , <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	0.5	PNA QuickFISH	AdvanDx	No	No	No	High complexity	GNR Traffic Light PNA QuickFISH
<i>E. coli</i> , <i>K. pneumoniae</i> , <i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i> , <i>P. aeruginosa</i> , <i>Serratia marcescens</i> , <i>Acinetobacter</i> spp., <i>Proteus</i> spp., <i>Citrobacter</i> spp., <i>Enterobacter</i> spp.	<2.0	Multiplex PCR	Nanosphere	No	No	Yes	Not rated	Vergence gram-negative blood culture
Fungal pathogens								
<i>Candida albicans</i> , <i>Candida parapsilosis</i> , <i>Candida tropicalis</i> , <i>Candida glabrata</i> , <i>Candida krusei</i>	1.5	PNA FISH	AdvanDx	Yes	No	No	High complexity	Yeast Traffic Light PNA Fish
Other								
Multiple bacterial, fungal, and viral pathogens	1	Multiplex PCR	BioFire Diagnostics	Yes	No	Yes	Moderate complexity	FluoroArray System and panels
Multiple bacterial and fungal pathogens	6 (direct from blood prior to culture)	PCR	Roche Molecular Systems*	Yes	No	Yes	Not rated	LightCycler SepiFast Test MGRADE
Multiple bacterial and fungal pathogens	0.2	MALDI-TOF MS	Bruker Corporation	No	Yes	Yes	High complexity	MALDI Biotyper CA
Multiple bacterial and fungal pathogens	0.25-1	MALDI-TOF MS	bioMérieux	No	Yes	Yes	High complexity	VITEK MS
Multiple bacterial and fungal pathogens	6-24	Optical	bioMérieux	No	Yes	No	High complexity	VITEK 2

## PCT

- Levels can help to differentiate bacterial infections from viral infections and noninfectious inflammatory conditions
- Current literature supports use in patients with lower respiratory tract infections and in critically ill patients
- Limitations include patients with renal dysfunction, congestive heart failure, and massive stress

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### Lower Respiratory Tract Infections

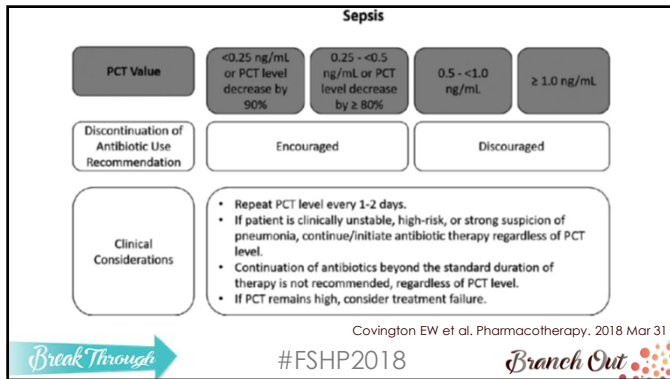
PCT Value	<0.1 ng/mL or decrease by 90%	0.1 - <0.25 ng/mL or PCT level decrease by ≥ 80%	0.25 - <0.5 ng/mL	≥ 0.5 ng/mL
Discontinuation of Antibiotic Use Recommendation	Encouraged	Encouraged	Discouraged	Discouraged
Clinical Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repeat PCT level every 1-2 days.</li> <li>• If patient is clinically unstable, high-risk, or strong suspicion of pneumonia, continue/initiate antibiotic therapy regardless of PCT level.</li> <li>• Continuation of antibiotics beyond the standard duration of therapy is not recommended, regardless of PCT level.</li> <li>• If PCT remains high, consider treatment failure.</li> </ul>			

Covington EW et al. Pharmacotherapy. 2018 Mar 31

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### Integrating RDT into an ASP

- CDC core elements of an ASP
- IDSA/SHEA recommendations for implementing an ASP
- IDSA/SHEA recommendations related to microbiology and laboratory diagnostics
- SIDP position statement on the role of ASP pharmacists in the use of RDT
- Preimplementation checklist
- Implementation checklist
- Postimplementation checklist

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### CDC Core Elements of an ASP

- Leadership commitment
- Accountability
- Drug expertise
- Action
- Tracking
- Reporting
- Education

RDT is an area of emerging development and evolution

<https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/healthcare/implementation/core-elements.html>

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### IDSA/SHEA Recommendations for Implementing an ASP

Barlam TF et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2016;62:e51-77

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### IDSA/SHEA Recommendations Related to Microbiology and Laboratory Diagnostics

- Suggest the use of rapid viral testing for respiratory pathogens to reduce the use of inappropriate antibiotics
  - weak recommendation, low-quality evidence
- Suggest RDT in addition to conventional culture and routine reporting on blood specimens if combined with active ASP support and interpretation
  - weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence

Barlam TF et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2016;62:e51-77

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### IDSA/SHEA Recommendations Related to Microbiology and Laboratory Diagnostics

- Suggest the use of serial PCT measurements as an ASP intervention to decrease antibiotic use
  - weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence
- Suggest incorporating nonculture-based fungal markers in ASP interventions to optimize antifungal use in patients with hematologic malignancy at risk of invasive fungal diseases
  - weak recommendation, low-quality evidence

Barlam TF et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2016;62:e51-77

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## SIDP Position Statement on the Role of ASP Pharmacists in the Use of RDT

- Supports ASP pharmacists as an essential component of RDT
  - Collaboration with microbiology team
  - Communication with primary team
  - Barriers to implementation (funding and training) and methods to overcome
  - Quality metrics
  - Continuing education

<https://www.sidp.org/page-1543291/4935839>

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## Preimplementation Checklist

- Identify most useful RDT based on hospital pathogen prevalence
- Identify hospital cost and burden of infection
- Identify time to effective therapy

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## Implementation Checklist

- Use a microbiologist-validated RDT instrument
- Determine if test is done in real time 24/7 or batch
- Ensure that communication of RDT results from microbiologists to ASP clinicians is established
- Educate medical staff
- Document interventions and acceptance rates

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## Postimplementation Checklist

- Determine time to effective therapy
- Determine time to discontinuation or de-escalation
- Determine time to infectious diseases consult
- Document negative blood culture prior to discharge
- Track 30-day readmission
- Track mortality

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## Impact of RDT on Clinical and Economic Outcomes

- *Staphylococcus aureus*
- Gram-negative organisms
- *Candida* species
- *Clostridium difficile*

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## *Staphylococcus aureus*

- Bacteremia requires prompt diagnosis and treatment
- Gold standard for MRSA: vancomycin
- Gold standard for MSSA: nafcillin/oxacillin/cefazolin
- RDT (e.g. PCR for *mecA*, Xpert MRSA/SA BC, PNA FISH)
  - ↓ time to optimal antibiotic therapy
  - ↓ in antibiotic therapy
  - ↓ length of stay
  - ↓ cost
  - ↓ mortality

Bauer KA et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2014;59(Suppl 3):S134-45

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## Coagulase-Negative Staphylococci

- Contaminant if only 1 blood culture
- Causative organism in >1 blood culture
- RDT (e.g. Xpert MRSA/SA BC, PNA FISH)
  - ↓ time to discontinuation of antistaphylococcal antibiotics
  - ↓ in total antibiotic exposure
  - ↓ length of stay
  - ↓ cost

Bauer KA et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2014;59(Suppl 3):S134-45

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## Enterococci

- Intrinsically resistant to several antibiotics
- VRE infections are associated with suboptimal outcomes
- RDT (e.g. Verigene BC-GP, PNA FISH)
  - ↓ time to optimal antibiotic therapy
  - ↓ length of stay
  - ↓ cost
  - ↓ mortality

Bauer KA et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2014;59(Suppl 3):S134-45

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## Gram-Negative Organisms

- PNA FISH traffic light
  - *E. coli* fluoresces green
  - *K. pneumoniae* fluoresces yellow
  - *P. aeruginosa* fluoresces red
- MALDI-TOF MS
  - ↓ time to antibiotic optimization
  - ↓ time to active treatment
  - ↓ length of stay
  - ↓ cost
  - ↓ mortality
  - ↑ clinical cure

Bauer KA et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2014;59(Suppl 3):S134-45

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## Candida species

- Fourth most common cause of nosocomial bacteremia
- Long time to identification and speciation
- PNA FISH yeast traffic light
  - *C. albicans/C. parapsilosis* fluoresces green
  - *C. tropicalis* fluoresces yellow
  - *C. glabrata/C. krusei* fluoresces red
  - ↓ time to targeted therapy
  - ↓ caspofungin usage
  - ↓ cost

Bauer KA et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2014;59(Suppl 3):S134-45

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## Clostridium difficile

- Challenging infection
- Multiple recurrences
- Toxin detection and glutamate dehydrogenase lack sensitivity and specificity
- PCR is the most sensitive test to detect *C. difficile*

McDonald LC et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2018;66:987-94

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## Clostridium difficile Diagnostic Algorithm



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## The Effect of Molecular Rapid Diagnostic Testing on Clinical Outcomes in Bloodstream Infections: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

Tristan T. Timbrook<sup>1,2</sup>, Jacob B. Martin<sup>1,2</sup>, Kevin W. McConnelly<sup>1</sup>, Aisling R. Caffrey<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Elithereus Mylonakis<sup>1</sup>, and Kerry L. LaPlante<sup>1,2,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Widely Infectious Diseases Research Program, Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center; <sup>2</sup>Center of Innovation in Long Term Services and Supports, Providence Veterans Affairs Medical Center; <sup>3</sup>Infectious Diseases Division, Walter Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence; and <sup>4</sup>School of Pharmacy, University of Rhode Island, Kingston

**Background.** Previous reports on molecular rapid diagnostic testing (mRDT) do not consistently demonstrate improved clinical outcomes in bloodstream infections (BSIs). This meta-analysis seeks to evaluate the impact of mRDT in improving clinical outcomes in BSIs.

**Methods.** We searched PubMed, CINAHL, Web of Science, and EMBASE through May 2016 for BSI studies comparing clinical outcomes between mRDT and conventional microbiology methods.

**Results.** Thirty-one studies were included with 5920 patients. The mortality risk was significantly lower with mRDT than with conventional microbiology methods (odds ratio [OR], 0.66; 95% confidence interval [CI], .54–.80), yielding a number needed to treat of 20. The mortality risk was slightly lower with mRDT in studies with antimicrobial stewardship programs (ASPs) (OR, 0.64; 95% CI, .51–.79), and non-ASP studies failed to demonstrate a significant decrease in mortality risk (0.72; 46–1.12). Significant decreases in mortality risk were observed with both gram-positive (OR, 0.73; 95% CI, .55–.97) and gram-negative organisms (0.51; 33–.78) but not yeast (0.90; .49–1.67). Time to effective therapy decreased by a weighted mean difference of –5.03 hours (95% CI, –8.60 to –1.45 hours), and length of stay decreased by –2.48 days (–3.90 to –1.06 days).

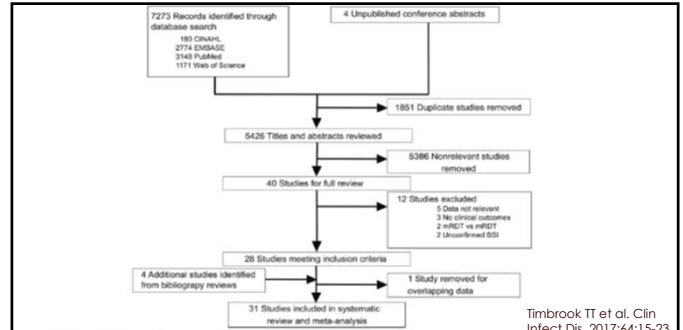
**Conclusions.** For BSIs, mRDT was associated with significant decreases in mortality risk in the presence of an ASP, but not in its absence. mRDT also decreased the time to effective therapy and the length of stay. mRDT should be considered as part of the standard of care in patients with BSIs.

Timbrook TT et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2017;64:15-23

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Timbrook TT et al. Clin Infect Dis. 2017;64:15-23

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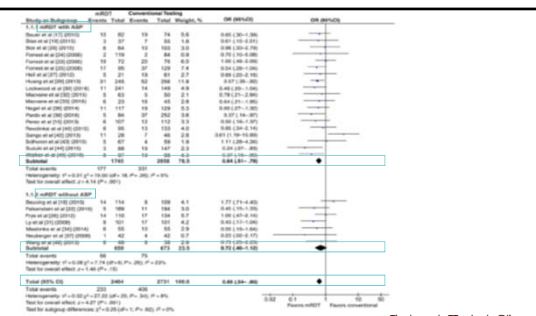


Figure 1. Mortality in patients with bloodstream infections testing mRDT versus conventional testing in bloodstream infections. Odds ratios (OR) were reported for mRDT versus conventional testing in bloodstream infections. Odds ratios (OR) were reported for mRDT versus conventional testing in bloodstream infections. Odds ratios (OR) were reported for mRDT versus conventional testing in bloodstream infections.

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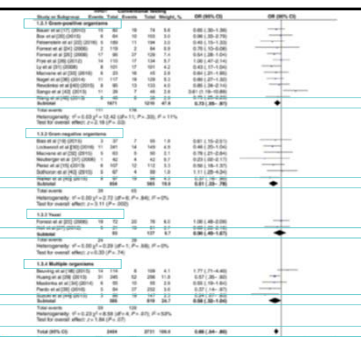


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## RDT with ASP has the potential to:

Improve antimicrobial use

Improve clinical outcomes

Improve economic outcomes

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## Key References and Readings

- CDC Core Elements of Hospital Antibiotic Stewardship Programs. Available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/healthcare/implementation/core-elements.html>
- Barlam TF, Cosgrove SE, Abbo LM, et al. Implementing an antibiotic stewardship program: guidelines by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America. Clin Infect Dis. 2016;62:e51-77.
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- Bauer KA, Perez KK, Forrest GN, et al. Review of rapid diagnostic tests used by antimicrobial stewardship programs. Clin Infect Dis. 2014;59(Suppl 3):S134-45.

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