P0726
Poster Session III
Diagnosis of Clostridium difficile and other gastrointestinal infections
GASTROENTERITIS AND DIARRHOEA: A SYNDROMIC APPROACH TO LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS OF DISEASE.

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Summary:

Aimed at practising professionals in the field of microbiology Syndromic Algorithm S7 - Gastroenteritis and Diarrhoea is a diagnostic tool which aims to streamline the process of diagnosis by promoting rapid, accurate test selection.

Abstract:

Annually in the UK, there are an estimated 17 million sporadic cases of infectious intestinal disease (IID). UK data from the Infectious Intestinal Disease 2 study 2011 identified Norovirus as the most common cause of IID (followed by Rotavirus, Sapovirus and *Campylobacter* species), and overall emphasised the under diagnosis of enteric viruses in all age groups. The burden of community and healthcare IID is considerable; correct identification and reporting of causative organisms is essential for the development of appropriate control strategies, for improving patient outcomes (by narrowing of antimicrobial treatment), and for reducing the adverse effects of broad-spectrum antibiotics thereby contributing to good antimicrobial stewardship.

Syndromic Algorithm S7 – Gastroenteritis and Diarrhoea is intended as a general resource for practising professionals in laboratory medicine, clinicians and healthcare commissioners. Giving a comprehensive overview of microbiological tests appropriate for patients presenting with infective gastroenteritis and diarrhoea, S7 aims to aid test selection, identifying correct specimen type and differentiating between suitable primary and secondary testing dependent on patient history (clinical features and epidemiological information). Patient history is crucial to the optimal processing of samples, and the algorithm promotes the submission of sufficient, relevant clinical details at the time of sample submission. Developed by professionals in the field, the algorithm includes molecular, serological, microscopy and culture testing for a wide range of organisms represented in a schematic design for ease of use. Three algorithms have been designed to cover sporadic cases of gastroenteritis and diarrhoea in immunocompetent patients, immunocompromised patients and in outbreak situations. S7 is a useful diagnostic tool for the rapid and accurate investigation of Gastroenteritis and Diarrhoea, streamlining diagnosis, promoting time and cost efficiency.

Sporadic Cases (Immunocompetent)