

Performance of Andromas and Bruker MALDI-TOF MS in the identification of *Neisseria*

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Background The genus *Neisseria* includes two human pathogens species, *Neisseria meningitidis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and several non pathogenic *Neisseriae* species. Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization-time of flight mass spectrometry (MALDI-TOF MS system) is a cost effective and accurate method that provides highly reliable and rapid bacterial identifications^{1,2}. The Bruker and Andromas MALDI-TOF MS systems uses the best database match of a mass spectrum for identification. To date, no study has compared the performance of Andromas with Bruker MALDI-TOF MS for the identification of *Neisseriae*.

Objective To compare the performance of Andromas with Bruker MALDI-TOF MS for the identification of *N. gonorrhoeae*, *N. meningitidis* and non pathogenic *Neisseriae* after 24h and 48h of growth.

Methods *Neisseriae* strains were recovered at Henri Mondor and Lariboisière hospitals, Paris, France, and were inoculated onto chocolate agars and incubated at 37C in 5% CO₂.

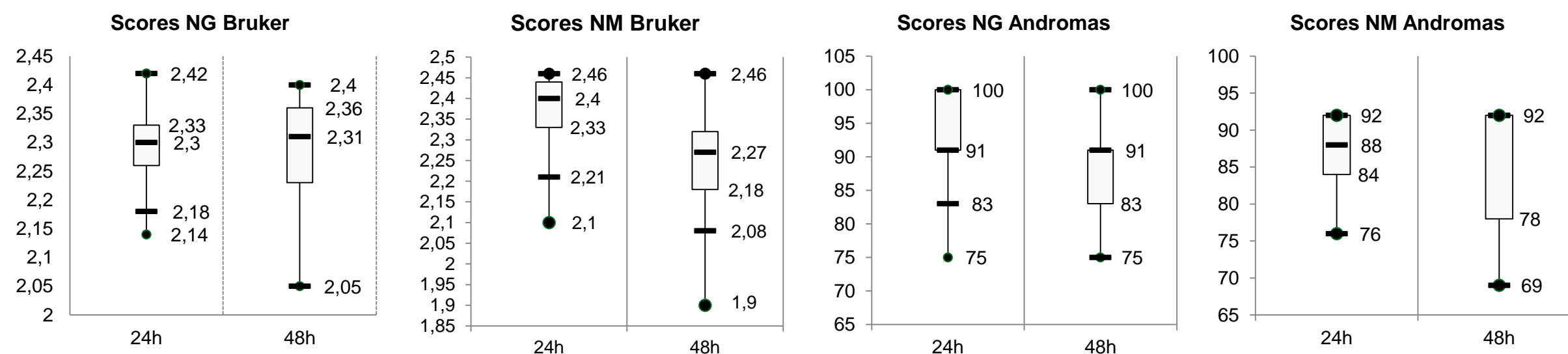
N. meningitidis and non pathogenic *Neisseriae* had been previously identified by 16S rRNA sequencing.

Identification was carried out in duplicate using the two MALDI-TOF platforms (Andromas, Henri Mondor hospital, France and Bruker, Lariboisière Hospital, France) in parallel after 24h and 48h of growth.

Results 131 strains of *Neisseriae* tested (Henri Mondor = 33; Lariboisière = 98)

		24 h		48 h	
		Bruker	Andromas	Bruker	Andromas
<i>N. gonorrhoeae</i> (n=85)	NG	n=85 (100%)	n=85 (100%)	n=83 (97,6%)	n=85 (100%)
	Non NG	n=0	n=0	n=0	n=0
	No peak found	n=0	n=0	n=2 (2,4%)	n=0
<i>N. meningitidis</i> (n=18)	NM	n=17	n=16	n=18	n=17
	Non-NM	n=1 (<i>N. elongata</i>)	n=0	n=0	n=0
	No peak found	n=0	n=2	n=0	n=1

NG = *N. gonorrhoeae*
NM = *N. meningitidis*



Conclusions Bruker and Andromas platforms have both shown good performances in *N. gonorrhoeae* and *N. meningitidis* identification. They were better after 24h of growth (median scores >2,2 for Bruker and >85% for Andromas) than after 48h of growth. MALDI-TOF identification eliminated the option of *N. gonorrhoeae* or *N. meningitidis* in 96% and 100% of non-pathogenic *Neisseriae* cases for Bruker and Andromas platforms respectively. Misidentification of *N. polysaccharaea* as *N. meningitidis* has been previously described in several studies^{3,4}. In contrast to them, *N. cinerea* was well identified by Bruker and Andromas mass spectrometers.

Non pathogenic <i>Neisseriae</i> (n=28)	Bruker		Andromas		
	Ident.	Score	Ident.	Score (%)	
16S rRNA sequencing	<i>N.sp</i>	2,05	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca</i>	76	
	<i>N.flavescens</i>	1,93	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca /subflava</i>	73	
	<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,12	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca</i>	92	
	<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,16	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca</i>	84	
	<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,09	<i>N. subflava</i>	80	
	<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,09	<i>N. subflava</i>	80	
	<i>N. subflava/perflava</i> (n=13)	<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,14	<i>N. subflava</i>	66
		<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,15	<i>N. subflava</i>	86
		<i>N.perflava</i>	2,1	<i>N. mucosa</i>	72
		<i>N.perflava</i>	2,28	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca</i>	84
		<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,13	<i>N. subflava</i>	93
		<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,11	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca</i>	76
		<i>N.flavescens</i>	2,03	<i>N. flava/perflava/sicca</i>	76
<i>N. mucosa</i> (n=3)	<i>N. macae</i>	2,19	<i>N. mucosa</i>	100	
	<i>N. mucosa</i>	2,06	<i>N. mucosa</i>	100	
	<i>N. mucosa</i>	2,14	<i>N. mucosa</i>	100	
<i>N. macacae/mucosa/sicca</i> (n=3)	<i>N.macacae</i>	2,16	<i>N. mucosa</i>	100	
	<i>N.mucosa</i>	1,91	<i>N. mucosa</i>	90	
	<i>N.macacae</i>	1,93	<i>N. mucosa</i>	81	
<i>N. elongata</i> (n=3)	<i>N. elongata</i>	1,98	<i>N. elongata</i>	71	
	<i>N. elongata</i>	2	<i>N. elongata</i>	76	
	<i>N. elongata</i>	1,84	<i>N. elongata</i>	76	
<i>N. cinerea</i> (n=2)	<i>N. cinerea</i>	1,81	<i>N. cinerea</i>	100	
	<i>N. cinerea</i>	1,77	<i>N. cinerea</i>	91	
<i>N. bacilliformis</i>	<i>N.bacilliformis</i>	2,04	<i>N. bacilliformis</i>	85	
<i>N. polysaccharaea</i>	<i>N.meningitidis</i>	2,1	-	-	
<i>N. wadsworthi</i>	-	-	-	-	
<i>N. wearveri / animalis</i>	<i>N.weaveri</i>	2,04	<i>N. weaveri</i>	84	

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