

**Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)
Meeting Summary**

October 12, 2021

1. Roll Call:

Cody, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm Eastern on October 12, 2021 by teleconference. Attendance is recorded in Attachment A – there were 8 members present. Associates present: Anagha Chitre, Nigel Allison, Robert Royce, Tina Buttermore, Carl Kircher, Amy Chandra and Debbie Bond.

The September 14th meeting minutes will be voted on during the November meeting.

Cody reminded the voting members that they need to be sure to take the Committee Training.

2. SIR 414

Cody sent the following email to be used for discussion today:

From Cody – Email 10/12/21: We have three versions that say the same thing but are worded differently. Thanks for all the feedback! I like them all, but think maybe #3 is the most informational without being redundant. We can discuss at the meeting today or via email beforehand, makes no difference to me. Here they are in all their glory:

Response 1: Your example would apply to 1.6.3.2.e if the analyst using 1.7.3.3 only read out positive results for that method. Please note that 1.7.3.3 does not include determination of non-positive environmental or QC samples, and therefore a DOC following 1.6.3.2.e using 1.7.3.3 would not prove an analyst competent in determining non-positive environmental or QC sample results or competent at performing any other parts of the method.

If the laboratory had a documented process for analyzing samples using the method, utilizing associated techniques (ex. aseptic technique) and meeting QC requirements, on a defined basis in a similar manner for all analysts (such as monthly positive and negative QC samples for each analyst), that could be used to determine patterns/trends and as documentation for an on-going DOC.

Response 2: Your example would apply to 1.6.3.2.e if the analyst using 1.7.3.3 only read out positive results for that method. Please note that 1.7.3.3 does not include determination of non-positive environmental or QC samples, and therefore a DOC following 1.6.3.2.e using 1.7.3.3 would not prove an analyst competent in determining non-positive environmental or QC sample results or competent at performing any other parts of the method. Therefore 1.7.3.3 cannot be used solely to meet the requirements for an ongoing DOC.

1.6.3.2.e refers to those instances where a lab may use other approaches to an on-going DOC, such as lab generated blind samples, replicate analysis, in-batch positives and negatives or other

reasonable approaches. If the laboratory has a documented **procedure** for analyzing samples using the method, utilizing associated techniques (ex. aseptic technique) and meeting QC requirements, on a defined basis in a similar manner for all analysts (such as monthly positive and negative QC samples for each analyst), which could be used to determine patterns/trends, it could be used **as** documentation for an on-going DOC.

Response 3: Your example would apply to 1.6.3.2.e if the analyst using 1.7.3.3 only read out positive results for that method. Please note that 1.7.3.3 does not include determination of non-positive environmental or QC samples, and therefore a DOC following 1.6.3.2.e using 1.7.3.3 would not prove an analyst competent in determining non-positive environmental or QC sample results or competent at performing any other parts of the method. Therefore 1.7.3.3 cannot be used solely to meet the requirements for an ongoing DOC.

1.6.3.2.e refers to those instances where a lab may use other approaches to an on-going DOC, such as lab generated blind samples, replicate analysis, in-batch positives and negatives or other reasonable approaches. If the laboratory has a documented process for analyzing samples using the method, utilizing associated techniques (ex. aseptic technique) and meeting QC requirements, on a defined basis in a similar manner for all analysts which could be used to determine patterns/trends, it could be used documentation for an on-going DOC.

The text in red were changes made to what was originally emailed.

Jessica and Robin both expressed concerns to not be too prescriptive. They don't want to limit a lab.

A motion was made by Jessica to approve Response 2. The motion was seconded by Robin with no further discussion.

Vote:

For – Cody, Jessica, Robin, Vanessa, Elisa, Hunter, Enoma

Against – None

Abstain – Jody (needs more information)

Cody will forward the Response to Lynn Bradley, Program Administrator for LASEC.

(Addition: TNI's new voting SOP requires that a 2/3 vote is needed for SIRs. Additional votes will be requested by email.)

3. Comments to Posted DRAFT Standard

Cody shared the comments that have come in. They will be formally considered at the following meeting after the comment period has closed.

There are 3 comments that have been received. Two relate to the equilibrium issue and the third is related to the language change between accredited versus certified.

Robin raised a concern about Comment 3. She does not support the change from “may” to “must”. She does not think it is required to be accredited/certified to do these support tests.

Carl thinks it should be “must” and provided a written comment.

4. Membership

Cody will look through application and plan to discuss possible new members next month. We can still add 2 members to get to 15. Cody’s job change may affect her stakeholder status.

Enoma is actually a Lab now. Need to talk to CSDEC on an exception to

5. Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2021 at 1:30pm Eastern.

A summary of action items and backburner/reminder items can be found in Attachment B and C.

Cody adjourned the meeting at 2:40 pm Eastern. Robin motion. Second – Jody. Unanimous.

Attachment A

**Participants
Microbiology Expert Committee (MEC)**

Members	Affiliation	Balance	Contact Information
Cody Danielson (Chair) (2022*) Present	Oklahoma	AB	Cody.Danielson@deq.ok.gov
Jessica Hoch (2022) Present	TCEQ	Other	Jessica.Hoch@Tceq.Texas.Gov
Lily Giles (2022*) Absent	Louisiana	AB	Lily.Giles@LA.GOV
Mary Robinson (2022*) Absent	Indiana	AB	mrobinson@isdh.IN.gov
Robin Cook (Vice Chair) (2024*) Present	City of Daytona Beach, EML	Lab	cookr@codb.us
Ashley Larssen (2024*) Absent	KC Water	Lab	ashley.larssen@kcmo.org
Jody Frymire (2022*) Present	IDEXX	Other	Jody-Frymire@idexx.com
Vanessa Soto Contreras (2023) Present	Florida DOH	AB	Vanessa.SotoContreras@flhealth.gov
Elisa Snyder (2023*) Present	City of Austin – Austin Water Division	Lab	elisa.snyder@austintexas.gov
Hunter Adams (2023*) Present	City of Wichita Falls – Water Purification	Lab	hunter.adams@wichitafallstx.gov
Enoma Omoregie (2024) Present	NYCDEP	Other	eomoregie@health.nyc.gov
Christabel Monteiro (2024) Absent	Pace National, Analytical	Lab	christabel.monteiro@pacelabs.com
Patrick Roundhill (2023*) Absent	New Leaf Management, LLC	Lab	patrickroundhill@gmail.com
Ilona Taunton (Program Administrator) Present	The NELAC Institute	n/a	Ilona.taunton@nelac-institute.org

Attachment B
Action Items – MEC

	Action Item	Who	Expected Completion	Actual Completion
104	Implementation Guidance for Equilibrium.	Committee	TBD	See note in 5/11/21 minutes.
105	Discuss definition of Lot with Chair of CSDP EC.	Kasey Paul Junio	2/11/21	Started, but ongoing. 7/13/21: Remove
110	Complete Summary of Changes of document for posting on the website.	Cody	7/26/21	
111	Send final copy of DRAFT Standard and Summary of Changes to Ilona for posting.	Cody	7/30/21	
112				

Attachment C

Backburner / Reminders – MEC

	Item	Meeting Reference	Comments
1	Update charter (if needed) in November 2019. Every 5 years.	n/a	Ongoing
2	Review Method codes and send comments to Robin for Dan Hickman.		Moved to back-burner on 6/9/20.
3	Provide an update on what has been done with the method codes and database after Jennifer's review and internal EPA meetings.		This was moved from the Action Items table. Notes: 6/9/20: Ask Jennifer for a follow-up. 11/9/20 – Not available for a follow-up.