

Summary of SIR Subcommittee Meeting

March 24, 2020

Present: Judy Morgan, Silky Labie, Carl Kircher, Lynn Bradley

Two SIRs were reviewed, as follows:

SIR 363 – all agreed that this interpretation is ready to be posted for AC vote.

SIR 379 – this SIR involves the “quanti-tray” system, which actually does not “fit” within the standard’s language, but the interpretation offered is adequate. The sentence about the question not being a SIR will be omitted, but the response is ready for AC vote. Judy will summarize the discussion of possible better ways to handle this technology so that it can be sent to the Microbiology Expert Committee Chair, Kasey Raley, for consideration in its revision of V1M5.

A SIR submission about one of the Guidance documents was declined as not being a request for interpretation, but Lynn ask for some discussion about whether there is a better way to handle guidance questions in the future. The group’s consensus was that, in the future, the SIR should be returned to the submitter with a request to cite the relevant section of the standard, and include a note that the guidance document is not adequate clarification. NOTE: Lynn has contacted that submitter to advise that such a resubmission would be considered.

Participants also discussed SIR 362, which is about the 30-day timeline for issuing site reports by ABs. It was controversial in that this subcommittee insisted on a different answer than the LAB Expert Committee initially provided, and then it became seriously controversial when posted for vote by the NELAP AC. Carl explained that the issue will be addressed in the revision of V2M1, but that does not solve the problem with the 2016 Standard. Judy will contact the submitter and ask if it can be withdrawn.

The next SIR Subcommittee meeting will be Tuesday, April 28, 2020, at 12:30 pm Eastern. Two SIRs approved by Chemistry should be submitted by then, and the draft revised SIR SOP plus the new Implementation Guidance SOP will be available for discussion and improvements.