



MICROGEN® Strep-ID comparison to Biomerieux API Strep

The recently released Microgen® Strep-ID (MID-62) was evaluated by a major Australia public hospital as part of Microgen Bioproducts pre launch validation process. The purpose of this process is to provide new products to selected laboratories prior to international product release in order confirm that all aspects of the developed product are in order.

This trial was performed in accordance with a predetermined trial protocol agreed to by both Microgen Bioproducts and the trial laboratory. In the trial, a range of cultures including those obtained from internationally recognised culture collections (maintained by the trial laboratory as standard control cultures) and a range of significant clinical isolates obtained from clinical samples including wound sites, CSF, genital swabs and blood cultures.

In this evaluation, a total of 38 strains were examined however, only 31 of these strains could unequivocally be confirmed as belonging to a specific species (See Table 1.). The accepted identification was based on agreement between and the identification achieved using the standard identification procedure employed in the trial laboratory, API Strep (Bio Merieux), and in some cases confirmation using PCR. The current in-house method correctly identified 24 (77%) of the strains tested. The Microgen® Strep-ID, successfully identified 31(100%) of the strains.

Strains	API Strep	Microgen® Strep ID	Comments
<i>E. faecalis</i>	5	5	
<i>E. casseliflavus</i>	1	2	Confirmed by PCR <i>E. casseliflavus</i>
<i>E. faecium</i>	5	5	
<i>E. gallinarum</i>	1	1	
<i>S. pyogenes</i>	1	1	
<i>S. agalactiae</i>	2	2	
<i>S. anginosus</i>	0	2	
<i>S. mitis</i>	1	2	
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>	5	5	
<i>S. parasanguinis</i>	0	1	
<i>S. sanguinis</i>	1	1	
<i>S. salivarius</i>	1	2	
<i>S. uberis</i>	1	2	Confirmed by PCR <i>S. uberis</i>
Total	24	31	

Table 1. Comparison of the Microgen® Strep-ID and the expected identification for *Streptococcus* spp and *Enterococcus* spp.

When the 2 identifications achieved were in disagreement, a final identification was unable to be achieved due to the lack of a third, independent identification system.

In addition to the identification results above, the following comments were made by the trial participants:

1. The colours of the individual reactions in the Microgen® Strep-ID were deemed to be more easily interpreted than with the API Strep by the trial laboratory.
2. The Microgen® Strep-ID successfully identified more of the *Streptococcus* spp. tested than the API Strep.
3. The Microgen® Identification Systems Software (MID-60) was found to be exceedingly user friendly and very comprehensive.