



ComPath News



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DECEMBER 2015

> UNDERSTANDING BACTERIOLOGY RESULTS

Routine microbiological surveillance of animals is an integral part of any health monitoring program. We can help monitor both respiratory and gastrointestinal pathogens as well as investigate any lesions for bacteria and fungi.

Routinely collected respiratory and enteric samples are screened for the microorganisms listed in Table 1 below which comprise both primary and opportunistic pathogens of laboratory animals. Some of these organisms comprise low-level opportunists which are widely considered commensal bacteria and their presence in the normal flora of a healthy laboratory rodent is often of little significance.

Our bacteriology culture procedures are capable of detecting many additional non-pathogenic and opportunistic organisms (e.g. *Escherichia coli*, Enterobacteriaceae) which will not be reported on unless they appear at a high level of growth or as a pure culture. Disease Investigation cases are the exception to this rule.

As per the above changes in our bacteriology reporting, you will no longer see “*E.coli*” as a listed organism, “*Proteus* species” will change to specifically “*Proteus mirabilis*” and “*Pasteurella* species” will now be listed as “Other Pasteurellaceae” in our list of screened organisms. Pasteurellaceae is an entire family of gram negative bacilli, almost all of which do not cause interference in research. The inclusion of the entire Pasteurellaceae family in the most recent FELASA recommendations for agents to be monitored was controversial but ComPath will always perform speciation testing to specifically rule out *P.pneumotropica* in reports.

As always our approach to reporting is in line with FELASA recommendations as well as the approach taken by leading international health monitoring laboratories such as Charles River Laboratories, Idexx RADIL and Harlan. Please do not hesitate to contact the lab if you have any questions or concerns with this new report format.

<i>Bordetella bronchiseptica</i>	<i>Pasteurella pneumotropica</i>
Beta-haemolytic Streptococci	Other Pasteurellaceae
<i>Corynebacterium kutscheri</i>	<i>Proteus mirabilis</i>
<i>Citrobacter rodentium</i>	<i>Salmonella</i> species
<i>Klebsiella oxytoca</i>	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	

Table 1: Table of primary & opportunistic pathogens of rodents. Presence will be reported regardless of growth.

> DAFF APPROVES USE OF DRIED BLOOD SPOT SAMPLING

ComPath has received confirmation from the Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF) that samples submitted using dried blood spot cards are accepted for Hantavirus testing and subsequent clearance from Quarantine Approved Premises. This will allow for simple blood collection techniques to be used as only a single drop of whole blood is required for the M-AQIS (HAN) panel. Contact the lab if you would like to find out more about dried blood spot sampling and to get access to the TEGO™ cards.

> COMPATH BECOMES ICLAS INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER!

ComPath (SAHMRI) is proud to become an International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS) Institutional Member. ICLAS members are part of a network of national and international organizations that promote basic harmonisation in standards for laboratory animal science, with a priority of encouraging quality animal-based science in developing nations. Each year ComPath participates in the ICLAS Performance Evaluation Program (PEP) for both serology and microbiology which helps diagnostic laboratories to monitor and improve their diagnostic performance through a process of self-assessment.

> CORA UPDATE

Added to the tests available for selection in CORA are PCRs for *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Pneumocystis murina* and *Streptobacillus moniliformis*.

There will be some new and exciting changes to CORA in 2016- all designed to make life easier for our clients. We are always trying to think of new ways to improve CORA but the best suggestions will always come from YOU, the user! Please send any feedback and suggestions to the lab.

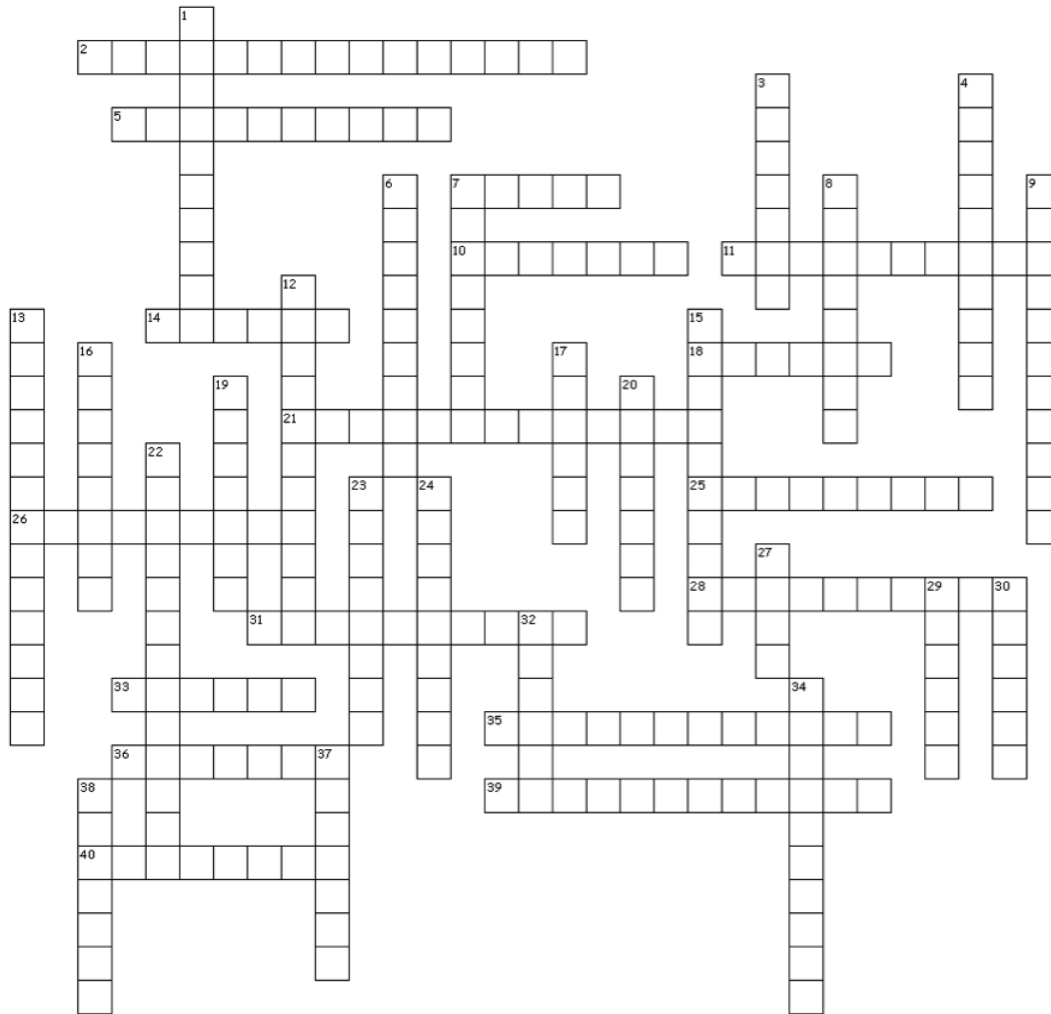
> HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE TEAM AT COMPATH!

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday break and we look forward to seeing you in 2016! If you need any help or advice in setting up your 2016 Health Monitoring Program, please do not hesitate to contact us as we are always happy to help.

Until next time.....

The ComPath Team

> COMPATH CROSSWORD



Across

2. Having a normal immune response
5. Manipulation of surrounding so as to enhance well-being
7. Component of blood used for antibody detection
10. Creating a shelter or structure to lay in
11. Having matching alleles that control a genetic trait
14. Make changes to improve
18. Burrowing mammal with long ears
21. Procedure to make object clean and germ-free
25. Common name for *Cavea porcellus* (6,3)
26. Steam sterilise
28. Halogenated ether used for inhalation anaesthesia
31. Room or building for scientific research and experiments
33. Same specie living closely together
35. Applied under skin
36. Separate zone to isolate specific pathogen free animals
39. Person qualified to practice animal medicine
40. Organism that lives on/in another and benefits by deriving host's nutrients

Down

1. Period or place of isolation
3. Natural material used for small rodent cage bedding (4,3)
4. Examination after death (4,6)

6. Breeding and caring for
7. Animal used to detect presence of pathogens
8. Brushing and cleaning fur coat
9. Scientific name for house mouse (3,8)
12. Substance used to block pain and sensation
13. Neutralise or remove dangerous substance
15. Genetically modified
16. Transmissible from animal to human
17. Young animal becoming independent of its mother
19. Adelaide based laboratory animal health monitoring facility
20. Prevalent parasitic Nematode
22. Housing unit for mice to enhance protection against disease transmission
23. Bacteria, virus or microorganism that can cause disease
24. Time interval when female is carrying embryo/foetus
27. Protective clothing for arms and torso
29. Genetic abnormality resulting in white fur and red eyes
30. Cell which has developed from fertilization of egg
32. Bring down to smaller amount
34. Surveillance, observe and check progress over time
37. Most common type of mammals used in scientific research
38. Substitute