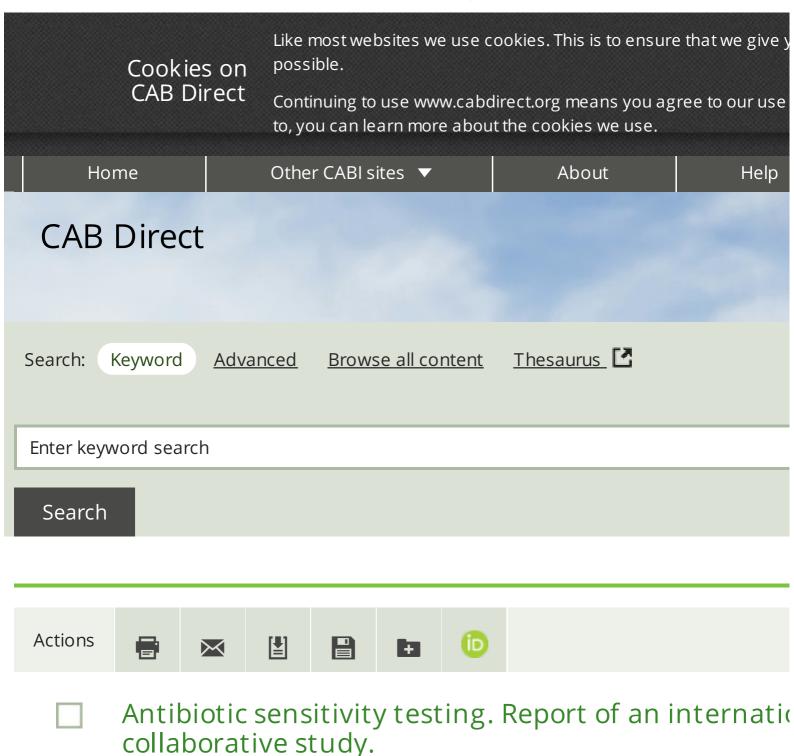
Antibiotic sensitivity testing. Report of an international collaborative study.

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Author(s): ERICSSON, H. M.; SHERRIS, J. C.

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Abstract: A working party of people well known internationally in the field of was set up under World Health Organization sponsorship in 1961 to study to reproducibility of antibiotic sensitivity testing. Their aim was to investigate the introducing standard techniques which might become universal reference or The work involved 16 laboratories. Each was provided with the same 16 organization sponsorship in 1961 to study to reproducibility of antibiotic sensitivity testing. Their aim was to investigate the introducing standard techniques which might become universal reference or the work involved 16 laboratories. Each was provided with the same 16 organization sponsorship in 1961 to study to reproducibility of antibiotic sensitivity testing.

laboratories determined the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of each broth and agar dilution methods and the size of inhibition zones produced k diffusion.

The results were examined statistically. Of the two dilution techniques, the tended to give higher MICs with all antibiotics except tetra-cycline, the differ exceeding 1 doubling dilution step in 9 of 45 sets of results. The agar meth produced scattered results, 75 of 675 observations differing by more than median. A mathematical treatment allowed a direct comparison between the dilution and diffusion tests to be made. This showed the diffusion technique somewhat more reproducible than either of the dilution tests.

The Report sets out the methods recommended by the working party for the performance of the three types of test and proposes that these be adopted techniques. Much of the detail of these recommendations depends on the investigations done for the purpose by members of the working party and investigations are reported in extended summary form giving much valuable on topics including media, inoculum size and antibiotic stability.

Although primarily concerned with reference methods, the working party al recommendations relating to routine sensitivity testing in clinical bacteriolog a system of reporting bacterial sensitivity in 4 grades, related to the MICs of concerned and the antibiotic levels probably attainable at their point of action grades are described in some detail together with proposals for practical more than the point of action of the proposal of the prop

P. D. Meers.

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