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### New Bacteriology Schemes for 2009

**Faecal Pathogens Scheme (FA)** for the investigation of food poisoning or health screening

- Pathogens for identification include: *Salmonella enterica*, *Campylobacter jejuni/coli* and occasionally other less commonly isolated pathogens such as *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*

**Genital Pathogens Scheme (GE)** for pathogen identification and antimicrobial susceptibility

- Pathogens for identification primarily include: *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* and opportunistic pathogens associated with infections in this area

**Superficial Infections Scheme (SU)** for pathogen isolation, identification and basic antimicrobial susceptibility. The scheme is suitable for laboratories doing basic microbiology

- Pathogens for identification include: a range of bacterial pathogens commonly associated with skin infections and superficial sites such as *Staphylococcus aureus* and haemolytic streptococci. Occasionally less common pathogens such as *Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae* will be included for educational purposes.

**Throat Infections Scheme (TH)** for isolation, identification and basic antimicrobial susceptibility

- Pathogens for identification include: haemolytic streptococci (primarily group A), and a range of opportunistic bacterial pathogens associated with throat infections

#### Common Features:

- Clinical details provided to guide investigation
- Three distributions per year each containing two specimens
- Supplied as freeze-dried simulated specimens (these will include commensal organisms as appropriate)
- Two week period for participants to report results
- Intended results are available on the results and reports section of the web-site [www.ukneqasmicro.org.uk](http://www.ukneqasmicro.org.uk) the day after the close of the distribution
- Reports normally issued within two weeks
- Country specific performance will be available where there are more than 10 participants in a country
- Benefits to participants:
  - ❖ Comprehensive reports
  - ❖ Helps to monitor conformance with own quality standards
  - ❖ Optimised patient care through reliable patient results

For more information contact your Distributor