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Supplementary materials

Table 1. Description of participating hospitals, including the country of origin, hospital/institution type, size and their knowledge of local and national guidelines.

	Country (Number of participating hospitals (%))					Hospital /Institution type (Number of participating hospitals (%))						Size of hospital (Number of participating hospitals (%))			
	France (39)	Germany (38)	Italy (38)	Spain (30)	UK (37)	Acute/pr imary (31)	Second ary (68)	Terti ary (72)	Specia list (6)	Long- term health care facility (3)	Unkno wn (2)	Small (53)	Medi um (101)	Large (12)	No data (17)
Do you have national guidelines?															
Yes	35 (89.7)	12 (31.6)	17 (44.7)	21 (70.0)	31 (83.8)	14 (45.2)	47 (69.1)	49 (68.1)	3 (50.0)	2 (66.7)	1 (50.0)	29 (54.7)	72 (71.3)	12 (100.0)	3 (17.6)
No	1 (2.6)	26 (68.4)	20 (52.6)	9 (30.0)	0 (0.0)	16 (51.6)	17 (25.0)	20 (27.8)	2 (33.3)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	24 (45.3)	29 (28.7)	0 (0.0)	3 (17.6)
Unknown	3 (7.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.6)	0 (0.0)	6 (16.2)	1 (3.2)	4 (5.9)	3 (4.1)	1 (16.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	11 (64.7)
If yes, do you follow them?	35 (100.0)	6 (50.0)	16 (94.1)	19 (90.5)	31 (100.0)	12 (85.7)	42 (89.4)	47 (95.9)	3 (100.0)	2 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	22 (75.9)	70 (97.2)	12 (100.0)	3 (100.0)
If you don't follow them, do you have local guidelines?	N/A	6 (50.0)	1 (5.9)	0 (0.0)	N/A	2 (14.3)	3 (6.4)	2 (4.1)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	5 (17.2)	2 (2.8)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
If you have no national guidelines do you have local	1 (100.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (10.0)	1 (11.1)	N/A	0 (0.0)	1 (5.9)	3 (15.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (8.3)	1 (3.4)	0 (0.0)	1 (33.3)

guidelines?															
Testing methods															
Recommended algorithm	10 (25.6)	3 (7.9)	16 (42.1)	10 (33.3)	33 (89.2)	12 (38.7)	27 (39.7)	29 (40.3)	3 (50.0)	1 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	13 (24.5)	47 (46.5)	3 (25.0)	9 (53.0)
Non-recommended algorithm	11 (28.2)	5 (13.1)	6 (15.8)	13 (43.3)	3 (8.1)	1 (3.2)	18 (26.5)	17 (23.6)	0 (0.0)	2 (66.7)	0 (0.0)	10 (18.9)	22 (21.8)	1 (8.3)	5 (29.4)
Methods only detecting toxin	1 (2.6)	0 (0.0)	5 (13.2)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (2.9)	3 (4.2)	1 (16.7)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	5 (9.4)	1 (1.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)
Methods not detecting toxin	14 (35.9)	30 (78.9)	11 (28.9)	7 (23.3)	0 (0.0)	18 (5.8)	20 (29.4)	21 (29.2)	2 (33.3)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	25 (47.2)	29 (28.7)	7 (5.8)	1 (5.9)
No data available	3 (7.7)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.7)	0 (0.0)	1 (1.5)	2 (2.8)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (50.0)	0 (0.0)	2 (2.0)	1 (8.3)	1 (5.9)
Hospital /Institution type															
Acute/primary	5 (12.8)	18 (47.4)	3 (7.9)	0 (0.0)	5 (13.5)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	17 (32.0)	12 (11.9)	0 (0.0)	2 (11.8)
Secondary	13 (33.3)	11 (28.9)	14 (36.8)	9 (30.0)	21 (56.8)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	23 (43.4)	37 (36.6)	2 (16.7)	6 (35.3)
Tertiary	20 (51.3)	7 (18.4)	18 (47.4)	19 (63.3)	8 (21.6)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8 (15.1)	49 (48.5)	9 (75.0)	6 (35.3)
Specialist	0 (0.0)	2 (5.3)	2 (5.3)	0 (0.0)	2 (5.4)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3 (5.7)	2 (2.5)	0 (0.0)	1 (5.9)
Long-term healthcare facility	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.6)	2 (6.67)	0 (0.0)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2 (3.8)	1 (1.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)

Unknown	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.7)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (8.3)	2 (11.8)
Size of hospital															
Small	3 (7.8)	21 (55.3)	12 (31.6)	14 (46.7)	3 (8.1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a						
Medium	25 (64.1)	17 (44.7)	21 (55.3)	15 (50.0)	23 (62.2)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a						
Large	8 (20.5)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.6)	0 (0.0)	3 (8.1)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a						
No data	3 (7.8)	0 (0.0)	4 (10.5)	1 (3.3)	8 (21.6)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a						

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