

Message

From: Chris Molloy [chris.molloy@md.catapult.org.uk]
Sent: 04/05/2020 20:10:32
To: Harper, Paul [paul.harper@astrazeneca.com]
CC: Phil Eeles [phil.eeles@ukbiocentre.com]; Peter Simpson [peter.simpson@md.catapult.org.uk]; [NR]
[NR]@deloitte.co.uk; [NR]@deloitte.co.uk; Philip Jones [pjones@bioascent.com];
tony.cox@ukbiocentre.com; Stuart McElroy [smcelroy@bioascent.com]
Subject: Re: EOD Actual Numbers (arrived 03/05)

Hi Paul,

I'm working with colleagues in procurement (who visited Phil today) and with suppliers to stabilise this situation. 1ml (006) is too low. 015 is 3ml but the swab needs to be removed by hand to get it onto automation (a potential workaround using the fat end of a tip appears to work in practise). Other options are becoming more available.

Chris

On 4 May 2020, at 15:59, Harper, Paul <Paul.Harper@astrazeneca.com> wrote:

Hi Phil & Chris Malloy (and [NR]),

Thanks for all the photo's of the various swab vial types received in Milton today. We have had similar delivery. Tubes are going into use without any validation or forewarning.

NR – who is managing this at Deloitte as it's a bit of a mess.

I've tried to list all I've had visibility of –

- 1) Today we've received around 1500 samples the 50ml tubes that are ~25mm diameter with white non-capture cap and a super absorbent short snap swab. This is outside any specification discussed to date and is causing problems for even the manual setup. No use for automation. See Phil's photo IMG_6053 for the white cap vial on the left. Still to determine useable volume – looks like we can process as at least has V-bottom.
- 2) [NR] has shared Combi0015 (attached Email). This looks to be the same as supplied samples COMBI0006 that are also appearing. These vials do not have a capture cap (white), have a flat-bottom with 1ml of what looks like PBS. The swab is the bigger absorbent as supplied with the large vials discussed in line 1. Once the swab has absorbed most of the sample there may not be enough to process. We cannot use these on our current automation and may struggle to use them manually.
- 3) Larger green cap MediWire MW950S. Similar in size to the COMBI0015 and COMBI0006. We we're not supplied swabs so do not know if suitable. There is 2ml of VTM so should be able to sample with a swab present. Cannot use on the current automation. Manual will be fine.

If we want to be able to process more samples we need to standardise on the vial dimensions.

[NR] do you have your completed table from the 4 centres. Propose we pick the automated tube format for both manual and automated (i.e. 12 or 13mm outer diameter and ~80mm tall).

Regards,