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Our Ref.: 4727 - INFO - ETEST
Benzylpenicillin PG 32 Follow-up EUCAST Warning

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INFORMATION TO THE CUSTOMERS
4727 - INFO - ETEST Benzylpenicillin PG 32 Follow-up EUCAST Warning

Dear customer,

You are a user of ETEST® product and we thank you for choosing bioMérieux solutions.

On Thursday 21st November 2019, EUCAST has posted a warning "against the use of gradient tests for benzylpenicillin minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) in *Streptococcus pneumoniae* " based on a study they conducted, for indications other than meningitis.
By this study, EUCAST reports that ETEST® PG 32 was found to be fairly accurate among wild type isolates (S ≤ 0.06 mg/L), but for isolates with higher MIC-values, around the R breakpoints (0.5–4mg/L) ETEST® systematically underestimated MIC-values by one or more dilutions.
EUCAST recommend to perform an alternative method (broth micro-dilution) in case of MIC value between 0.5 and 2 mg/L.

Following this warning, bioMérieux performed an internal investigation with a panel of *S. pneumoniae* strains with MIC between 0.5 and 4 mg/L. This internal study confirmed an underestimation of ETEST® PG 32 MICs compared to the ISO broth micro-dilution reference method. The observed trending for underestimation remains usually limited to -1 dilution. The MIC agreement rate remains higher than 90%, thus still meeting the ISO acceptance criterion.

Please feel free to contact your local bioMérieux customer service representative should you have questions.

Regards,

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