

Healthmark's HangTime kit is an easy to use test for detecting gram negative bacteria, and in turn the CRE bacteria as well.

CRE (stands for Carbapenem-resistant enterobacteriaceae) is a family of gram-negative bacteria that are nearly immune to the 'carbapenem' class of antibiotics, considered the last line of defense against Gram-negative infections that are resistant to other antibiotics.

Healthy people usually do not get CRE infections – they usually happen to patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare settings. Infections with these germs are very difficult to treat, and can be deadly.

In the face of the recent deadly outbreaks of the CRE superbugs across hospitals, there is a need for surveillance testing of endoscopes.

- An independent lab performed a 3rd party study on detecting CRE bacteria using the HangTime kit.
- The study evaluated the sensitivity of the HangTime kit for a representative strain of CRE bacteria : *Klebsiella pneumoniae* containing the New Delhi metallo-beta-lactamase (NDM-1) enzyme.
- A 1.0×10^6 CFU/ml suspension of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* was prepared in sterile DI water and diluted according to a dilution scheme. 100µl of each solution was added to 900µl of TSB in a sterile 10ml screw cap tube and incubated for three hours at 30 -35°C
- Duplicate samples were also done, as was a negative control.
- The cultured CRE bacteria and the HangTime Kit yielded positive readings for all dilution of CRE down to the lowest dilution tested, with a mean enumeration of 158CFU/150µl sample.
- The Hangtime kit yielded a negative reading ('0' result) for the sterile DI water, negative control.

The HangTime kit is an enzyme based test, does not need any culturing of samples and gives rapid test results.

The complete starter kit includes 1 box of labels, 1 box of tests and pipettes and 1 each of fluorometer.