



Principals of reporting

1	Reporting is one of the most important parts of the service, as what a laboratory releases makes a difference to the prescribing of antimicrobial agents.
2	Ensure reporting is in line with local guidance on the use of antimicrobial agents.
3	Report all clinically-relevant resistances for significant pathogens.
4	Report results for relevant antimicrobial agent(s) that the requestor has stated are in use, unless clinically inappropriate.
5	Whenever possible, always include a susceptibility result for a non- β -lactam agent, so there is always a treatment option for those with penicillin allergy.
6	Whenever possible and appropriate include results for antimicrobial agents that can be given orally.
7	Take note of restrictions for special patient groups when reporting (e.g. tetracyclines not to be used in pregnancy or for children)
8	Reporting should aim to reduce antimicrobial resistance and <i>C. difficile</i> through reducing selective pressures and targeting the most appropriate treatment for each organism reported.
9	The order in which the laboratory reports susceptibility results is important, as prescribers will tend to choose the first listed.
10	Inform clinicians that susceptibility results for further antimicrobial agents may be available.