

bioFILM PA™ MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**1. What is bioFILM PA™?**

bioFILM PA™ is a biofilm susceptibility kit which helps clinicians determine whether the tested clinical isolate will be susceptible or resistant to a given antibiotic at serum breakpoint.

2. Is bioFILM PA™ another MIC panel?

The bioFILM PA™ antimicrobial susceptibility kit is a single use, qualitative test designed to determine the antimicrobial agent susceptibility of both planktonic and biofilm *Pseudomonas aeruginosa in-vitro*. It provides Minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC, planktonic susceptibility) as well as Minimum biofilm eradication concentration (MBEC, biofilm susceptibility) information.

3. Which organisms can be tested using bioFILM PA™ susceptibility kit?

It is intended for prescription use in clinical laboratories and hospitals for patients with *P. aeruginosa* biofilm infections.

4. Which antibiotics are included in the kit?

The bioFILM PA™ Kit allows you to challenge an organism with 12 single antibiotics, and 35 antibiotic combinations at serum breakpoint concentrations. All antibiotics and their concentrations (µg/ml) included in the kit are listed below:

- Amikacin (16, 32)
- Aztreonam (8, 16)
- Cefepime (16, 8)
- Ceftazidime (8, 16)
- Chloramphenicol (8, 16)
- Ciprofloxacin (1, 2)
- Colistin (2, 4)
- Gentamicin (4, 8)
- Meropenem (4, 8)
- Piperacillin/tazobactam (32:4, 64:4)
- Tobramycin (4, 8)
- Trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole (1:19, 2:38)

**Refer to the bioFILM PA™ product insert for the complete panel layout.*

5. Can these kits be used for gram positive organisms?

No, this kit should not be used for any other organism than *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. All antibiotics on the panels are NOT meant to be used against Gram positives.

6. Can bioFILM PA™ be use for all types of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*?

Yes, bioFILM PA™ can be used for all biofilm forming *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

7. Which reference strain will be required to perform Quality Control?

The recommended reference strain for quality control is ATCC 27853.

8. What is the shelf-life of the product?

The shelf-life of the product is six months from the date of manufacturing.

9. What equipment will require to use bioFILM PA™ or to do biofilm testing?

To use bioFILM PA™ kit most common laboratory equipments are required which are listed below:

- 35±1°C incubator, non CO₂
- Platform shaker, set at 110 revolution per minutes (rpm)
- Other equipment and materials used for routine microbiology techniques

10. Is it for in-home use?

NO, it is intended only for prescription use in a clinical laboratory.

11. How many days will it take to complete this test?

Once a clinical isolate is subcultured twice, it takes about 48 hours to complete a test (from inoculation to final biofilm susceptibility).

12. Which reference strain will be required to perform Quality Control?

The recommended reference strain for quality control is ATCC 27853.

13. How do you know that the organism grew, formed a biofilm, and that the test is working?

- Growth in the Growth Control (G12 location) on the challenge plate after 24 hours of incubation confirms the growth of the organism
- Growth observed in Growth Control (G12 location) on the recovery plate after 48 hours of incubation confirms that the organism formed a biofilm
- When the results of planktonic susceptibility and biofilm susceptibility results show substantial increase in susceptibility then the test is working.

14. Where would you get a bacterial culture to test?

A test culture should be isolated from a patient's sputum sample if a patient is suffering from a lung infection.

15. How do you order bioFILM PA™ kits?

We offer a variety of options to order bioFILM PA™ kits. It can be ordered in packs of 10 and 20 by fax at (780) 424-0941, by telephone at (780) 448-0585, by e-mail at biofilmpa@innovotech.ca, or by online at http://www.innovotech.ca/products_order.php .