Quantitative Versus Semiquantitative and Direct Cultures of Respiratory Secretions in Diagnosis of Lower Respiratory Tract Infections

Thesis

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List of Abbreviations

AIDS Auto Immune deficiency Syndrome

ARDS Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome

ATS American Thoracic Society

BAL Broncho Alveolar Lavage

BBS Blinded bronchial sampling

BCYE Buffered charcoal yeast extract

BHIA Brain heart infusion agar

CAP Community Acquired Pneumonia

CDC Center for Disease Control

CF complement fixation

CFU Colony forming unit

CLSI Clinical and Laboratory Standard

Institute

CPIS Clinical Pulmonary Infection Score

CT Computed tomography

DFA direct fluorescent antibody

EIA enzyme immunoassay

ESBL Endo tracheal aspirate

ETA Fraction of inspired oxygen

 $\mathcal{F}iO_{s}$ Gomori methenamine silver

GMS Health Care Associated Pneumonia

HCAP hematoxylin and eosin

H&E Intensive Care Unit

ICU Immunodiffusion

ID Infectious Diseases Society of America

IDSA indirect fluorescent antibody

IFA potassium hydroxide

KOH latex agglutination

LA Lower Respiratory Tract Infection

LRTI Multi drug resistant

MDR Methicillin Resistant Staph Aureus

MLS Polymerase chain reaction

MRSA Partial pressure of oxygen

PCR Poly morpho nuclear cells

 P_aO_2 Protected specimen brushing

PMN Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

PSB Squamous epithelial cells

SARS Transcription mediated amplification.

SEC Ventilator Associated Pneumonia

TMA White blood cells

VAP World Health Organization

WBC WH0

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Introduction

Lower Respiratory Tract Infections (LRTIs) are common causes of morbidity and mortality worldwide. Community Acquired Pneumonia (CAP) and Health Care Associated Pneumonia (HCAP) represented by Ventilator Associated Pneumonia (VAP) are two important forms of pneumonia necessitating fast and conclusive management. (Fischbach and Walsh, 2009).

Ventilator associated pneumonia specially refers to pneumonia developing in a mechanically ventilated patient more than 48 hours after tracheal intubation or tracheostomy (*Rajasekhar et al.*, 2006). Reported incidence varied greatly ranging from 6 to 52% of intubated patient (*Walkey et al.*, 2009).

Community acquired pneumonia remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality in developed countries and it is a large contributor to excessive healthcare resource consumption and cost. The annual incidence rate of CAP in adults varies between 16 and 130 per 10,000 inhabitants (*Gutierrez et al.*, 2006).

Accurate identification of respiratory pathogens is the center of the management of the patients and initial appropriate treatment is associated with a lower mortality rate. Normal resident bacteria of the oropharynx may contaminate samples and a large number of different species may overgrow, preventing the determination of the true epidemiologic agent. Using a wash technique and quantitative culture of sputum has been shown to decrease the number of contaminants by 100 to 1000 fold and has enhanced the value of sputum samples (*Ziyade and Yagci*, 2010).