Colony Count and LAL Testing

Ascend Clinical is one of the leading providers of dialysis laboratory testing and services to healthcare clinics across the United States.

Colony Count Testing

Ascend offers **Colony Count RD52, RD62** and **Colony Count AAMI/ISO** for two source types: Dialysate and Dialysis Water.

Colony Count RD52, RD62	• Meets the minimal standards required by CMS with a maximum allowable limit of **200** cfu/mL.

Colony Count AAMI/ISO	• Follows the most recent AAMI guidelines which have a maximum allowable limit of **100** cfu/mL.
	• The lower maximum limit increases:
	  • The number of samples that reach this threshold, requiring additional reagents and culture dishes.
	  • The frequency of secondary reviews performed by an Environmental Analyst.
	• This new threshold is also endorsed by accreditation organizations such as the Joint Commission (formerly JCAHO) and NDAC (National Dialysis Accreditation Commission).

NY Colony Count Testing	• In addition to the above standards, the state of New York requires all samples to be run in duplicate.

LAL Testing

Ascend offers **LAL Endotoxin, LAL Dialysate (ISO), and LAL Water (ISO)** for source type dialysate and dialysis water, respectively.

LAL Endotoxin	• Meets the minimal standards required by CMS with a maximum allowable limit of **2** EU/mL.
LAL Dialysate (ISO) and LAL Water (ISO)	• Follows the most recent AAMI guidelines which have a maximum allowable limit of **0.5** EU/mL for dialysate and **0.25** EU/mL for water. • This lower maximum limit requires batching ISO samples separately to avoid the possibility of a false positive resulting from sample dilution. • This process requires a manual review by an Environmental Analyst, segregation of ISO samples, and a re-run on a different instrument prior to releasing the results.

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