

## INTRODUCTION

In recent years there has been increased international attention on the potential of using dangerous pathogens as possible biological weapons. Along with this attention there has been an increased demand from microbiological laboratories to have the capability to rapidly identify these dangerous pathogens. Biolog's Dangerous Pathogen (DP) Database (catalog #22420A) provides microbiologists with the capability to identify and characterize the organisms that public health officials (including the US Centers for Disease Control & Prevention) have deemed as being of primary importance.

## DP DATABASE

The DP Database adds additional identification capabilities to Biolog's popular MicroLog™ Microbial Identification/Characterization System. The DP Database is a supplement to the system's current Gram-Positive (GP) and Gram-Negative (GN) Aerobic Bacteria Identification Databases. It adds the following organisms to the existing GN and GP Databases:

- *Bacillus anthracis*
- *Brucella melitensis* (and other *Brucella* species that have recently been reclassified as *B. melitensis*)
- *Yersinia pestis*
- *Francisella tularensis*
- *Burkholderia mallei*
- *Burkholderia pseudomallei*

This database was developed in collaboration with internationally recognized labs specializing in dangerous pathogen research and monitoring activities. Biolog intends to periodically add organisms that human, veterinary and agricultural health officials designate as being of primary importance.

## VERSATILE & ACCURATE ID CAPABILITY

Biolog introduced its first microbiological identification system in 1989. Since then the company has continually expanded and improved its MicroLog Microbial Identification/Characterization Systems. In recent years many clinical laboratories have purchased the system because of its extensive organism identification databases that contain over 1,400 species/genera of aerobic and anaerobic bacteria and yeasts. As the number and diversity of "clinically significant" microbes expands due to an increase in the immunosuppressed patient population, many clinical labs find that common identification systems don't have the capability to identify many of these atypical organisms. In addition to the common clinically important organisms, the MicroLog System's databases contain a wide variety of environmental organisms that are often responsible for opportunistic infections. Labs

now have the capability to identify these organisms using the MicroLog System.

The DP Database makes the MicroLog System an even more indispensable tool for the public health microbiology lab. By using essentially the same set up protocols as those for the other organisms in the system's database, a lab can obtain accurate organism identifications often times in as little as four hours. The MicroLog system has the added advantage of providing the microbiologist with a wealth of phenotypic information that is not obtained by using molecular identification methods. This additional information could be critical in helping the lab determine the source of the organism and its relationship to other similar organisms. Unlike molecular identification technology, an accurate phenotypic profile or "fingerprint" is not dependent on a single factor like having the proper nucleic acid primer.

Consider the advantages of the combined MicroLog Microbial Identification/Characterization System and supplemental DP Database:

- The only identification system that can identify dangerous pathogens as well as other clinically significant organisms
- DP Database developed in collaboration with internationally recognized dangerous pathogen experts
- Identifications in as little as 4 hours with an extensive phenotypic profile of the organism
- Much more cost-effective than molecular identification methods

For more information on Biolog's MicroLog System or the new DP Database, contact us using the information below.

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