eTable 1.-Sensitivity, specificity and prevalence of each study. PCR=Polymerase Chain Reaction

Study, year	Reference Standard	PCR Test Used	Prevalence	N=	Sensitivity	Specificity
Arzese et al., 1995[14]	Toxigenic culture	Kato et al sequence[22]	0.37	89	1.00	0.97
	Cytotoxin Assay	Kato et al sequence[22]	0.37	89	1.00	0.88
Alonso et al., 1999[13]	Cytotoxin assay	In house sequence	0.27	96	0.96	1.00
Guilbault et al., 2002[19]	Cytotoxin assay	Alonso et al. sequence[13]	0.50	118	0.92	1.00
Bélanger et al., 2003[17]	Cytotoxin assay	Does not report	0.52	56	0.97	1.00
Zheng et al, 2004[33]	Toxigenic culture	In house sequence	0.15	992	0.93	0.90
van den Burg et al., 2005[31]	Cytotoxin assay	Does not report	0.06	367	0.87	0.96
Peterson et al., 2007[23]	Cytotoxin assay	In house sequence	0.14	228	0.89	1.00
	Toxigenic culture	In house sequence	0.16	228	0.84	1.00
van den Burg et al., 2007[32]	Cytotoxin assay	Does not report	0.06	540	0.87	0.96
Sloan et al., 2008[27]	Toxigenic culture	LightCycler®	0.22	200	0.86	0.97
Barbut et al., 2009[15]	Cytotoxin assay	BD Gene Ohm®	0.13	300	0.96	0.95
	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.12	300	0.94	0.98
Eastwood et al., 2009[18]	Cytotoxin assay	BD Gene Ohm®	0.19	558	0.79	0.98
	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.19	558	0.85	0.98
Huang et al., 2009[20]	Cytotoxin assay	Cepheid Xpert®	0.21	220	0.72	0.99
Stamper et al., 2009[28]	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.15	401	0.84	0.98
	Cytotoxin assay	BD Gene Ohm®	0.14	401	0.70	0.99
Stamper et al., 2009[29]	Toxigenic culture	ProGastro®	0.15	285 (5 not used)	0.77	0.99
Terhes et al., 2009[30]	Cytotoxin assay	BD Gene Ohm®	0.09	600	0.96	0.99
de Boer e al, 2010[55]	Cytotoxin assay	Applied Biosystems®	0.10	161	1.00	0.94
Kvach et al., 2010[24]	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.26	400	0.91	1.00
Novak-Weekley et al., 2010[25]	Cytotoxin assay	Cepheid Xpert®	0.19	428	0.94	0.96
Tenover et al, 2010[54]	Toxigenic culture	Cepheid Xpert®	0.19	2,296	0.99	0.91
Barbut et al, 2011[16]	Toxigenic culture	In house PCR	0.10	860	0.87	0.97
Karre et al., 2011[21]	3 positive tests by different PCRs and/or toxigenic culture	LightCycler®	0.10	346	0.94	1.00
	3 positive tests by different PCRs and/or toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.10	346	0.84	0.99
	3 positive tests by different PCRs and/or toxigenic culture	ProGastro®	0.11	346	0.92	0.99
Knetsch et al, 2011[23]	Toxigenic culture	LUMC®	0.28	526	0.96	0.88
	Toxigenic culture	LvI®	0.27	522	1	0.89
	Toxigenic culture	Δ117®	0.26	522	0.98	0.91
	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.19	512	0.88	0.97
Selvaraju et al, 2011[56]	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.24	200	0.89	0.97
Selvaraju et al, 2011[56]	Toxigenic culture	ProGastro®	0.24	1	1	0.93
Zidaric et al., 2011[34]	Toxigenic culture	BD Gene Ohm®	0.13	194	0.82	0.98
	Toxigenic culture	Cepheid Xpert®	0.17	178	0.96	0.97
Kim et al, 2012[53]	Toxigenic Culture	AdvanSure RT-PCR	0.09	127	1	0.98