

Table S1: Comparison of quality of inoculation between FA-Inoqula and manual method at the team level. Characteristics of the results obtained for series of 10 swabs corresponding with 30 inoculated plates. A total of 15 technicians were evaluated

No. series	No. sterile plates over 30 inoculated	Cumulative QIS		Cumulative QIS		Normalized cumulative score (NCS)		Difference in NCS (Automate–Manual)
		Minimum possible	Maximum possible	Inoqula	Manual	Inoqula	Manual	
1	9	21	84	75	59	88	67	21
2	8	22	88	67	52	74	55	19
3	1	29	116	100	82	86	70	16
4	7	23	92	78	62	84	65	19
5	3	27	108	99	98	91	90	1
6	9	21	84	72	67	84	77	7
7	5	25	100	77	59	76	57	19
8	4	26	104	83	61	79	57	22
9	7	23	92	70	48	74	48	26
10	7	23	92	75	53	80	54	26
11	5	25	100	76	53	75	51	24
12	4	26	104	93	70	89	66	23
13	2	28	112	93	74	83	65	17
14	4	26	104	88	65	84	61	23
15	7	23	92	76	51	81	52	29

NCS: Normalized cumulative score, which was calculated as follows:

$$(\text{cumulative QIS (technician)} - \text{minimum QIS possible}) * 100 / (\text{cumulative QIS}_{\text{max}} - \text{cumulative QIS}_{\text{min}})$$