

Working Group Interim Report

1	Title of Working Group	European Aspergillus PCR Initiative
2	Name(s) of Coordinator(s)	J Peter Donnelly, Jürgen Löffler, Rosemary Barnes
3	Objectives	To collaborate to develop a standard for Aspergillus PCR methodology and to validate this in clinical trials so that PCR could be incorporated into future consensus definitions for diagnosing invasive fungal diseases.
4	Achievements of the Working Group in last year (250 words)	Development of standards for <i>Aspergillus</i> PCR and published protocols for whole blood (White et al. 2010; <i>J Clin Microbiol</i> 48: 1231-40; Serum: White et al 2012; <i>J Clin Microbiol</i> 49(11): 3842-3848 Publishing a protocol ensuring optimal performance across laboratories. (White et al 2010. <i>J Clin Microbiol</i> 48: 3753-3755 Initiating a quality Control programme together with the QCMD
5	Is your Working Group going to continue for the next three years?	Yes