



Working Group Interim Report

1	Title of Working Group	European Aspergillus PCR Initiative
2	Name(s) of Coordinator(s)	Peter Donnelly, Jurgen Löffler, Rosemary Barnes
3	Objectives	to develop a standard for <i>Aspergillus</i> PCR methodology and to validate this in clinical trials so that PCR could be incorporated into future consensus definitions for diagnosing IFD.
4	Achievements of the Working Group in last year (250 words)	<p>A calibrator has been proposed for PCR (Lyon et al. Development and evaluation of a calibrator material for nucleic acid-based assays for diagnosing aspergillosis. J Clin Microbiol 2013; 51(7): 2403-5. The WG is progressing with its systematic review of Aspergillus PCR as part of the Cochrane collaboration (Cruciani et al The Cochrane Library 2012) The WG is involved in assessing the clinical utility of <i>Aspergillus</i> PCR in two trials:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prevention of Invasive Fungal Infections in Subjects Receiving Chemotherapy for Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia (AmBiGuard) ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier: NCT01259713 2. Empirical Versus Preemptive Antifungal Therapy (EORTC65091-06093) ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:NCT01288378 <p>The group has established a programme for standardising <i>Aspergillus</i> PCR in Bronchoalveolar fluids</p>
5	Is your Working Group going to continue for the next three years?	Yes.