Mast House, Derby Road, Bootle, Merseyside L20 1EA, United Kingdom.
Tel: +44 (0)151 933 7277 Fax: +44 (0)151 944 1332
www.mastgrp.com

MAST ID™ NITROCEFIN DISCS

For the rapid detection of β-lactamase enzymes in *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, *Staphylococcus* spp., *Haemophilus influenzae* and anaerobic bacteria.

The ability of certain bacteria to produce enzymes that inactivate β-lactam antibiotics i.e. penicillins and cephalosporins has long been recognised. Several clinical tests have been developed to detect β-lactamase enzymes. They include the iodometric method, the acidometric method and the use of a variety of chromogenic substrates. Nitrocefin is a chromogenic cephalosporin that has been found to be effective in detection of all known β-lactamase enzymes. β-lactamase enzymes hydrolyse the amide bond in the β-lactam ring of Nitrocefin resulting in a distinctive colour change from yellow to red.

Rapid β-lactamase tests can yield clinically relevant information earlier than an MIC test or disc diffusion test. MAST ID™ Nitrocefin discs are intended for use in the rapid testing of isolated colonies of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Moraxella catarrhalis*, *Staphylococcus* spp., *Haemophilus influenzae*[1] and anaerobic bacteria, notably *Bacteroides* spp.[12]. This is because organisms within a taxonomic group or even a single strain may produce a diversity of β-lactamase enzymes with different substrate specificities. Nitrocefin is the only reliable test for detecting β-lactamase producing *Enterococcus* spp.

Easy to use	• Smear colony onto surface of moistened disc
Convenient	• Tests can be performed using either clean Petri dish or glass slide
Cost effective	• No additional reagents required
Definable end point	• Colour change from yellow to red