

Table 3. Spectrum of pathogens and time-to-result of diagnostic procedures for cerebrospinal fluid culture (BACTEC blood culture bottles) and SeptiFast assay.

Microorganism	Number of isolates (n)			Duration of diagnostic procedures for pathogen detection in CSF			
	CSF ⁺ /SF ⁺	CSF/SF ⁺	CSF ⁺ /SF ⁻	Same-day-result (within 8 h) by SF (yes or no)	Time-to-positivity of BACTEC bottles in h (mean)	Time for Gram stain in h (mean)	Time for species identification in h (mean)
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	2	0	0	one yes, one not	12.5	20.5	42.5
Coagulase-negative Staphylococci	10	1	3*	yes	22.0	28.7	51.2
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	1	0	0	yes	6.1	20.5	56.0
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	2	0	0	yes	40.0	46.0	70.0
<i>Enterobacter cloacae</i>	1	0	0	yes	4.5	5.0	26.0
<i>Serratia marcescens</i>	1	0	0	yes	15.0	21.0	42.0
<i>Corynebacterium</i> spp.	0	0	1	yes	51.3	52.0	96
Total	17	1	4	In 17/18 (94%) cases SF results were obtained on the same day	21.6	27.7	54.8

CSF, cerebrospinal fluid; SF, SeptiFast; *the time to-positivity for this three samples was 72 h, 28 h and 22 h, respectively.