

**Answers to "Spotlight on ESBLs: A Continuing Laboratory Challenge" Self-Assessment Questions published in the MicroFocus Fall 2006 issue.**

1. Extended-spectrum  $\beta$ -lactamases are most commonly found in:
  - b. *E. coli*, *Klebsiella* spp., and *P. mirabilis*
2. According to CLSI rules, which of the following are NOT edited to "R" for ESBL producers
  - e. Piperacillin-tazobactam
3. What is the function of clavulanic acid in the ESBL confirmatory test?
  - c. It blocks the ESBL and prevents it from hydrolyzing cefotaxime or ceftazidime
4. Which of the following is NOT a characteristic associated with ESBL producing bacteria
  - e. They are easily detected with routine disk diffusion or MIC tests for cefotaxime and ceftazidime
5. Which of the following would be considered ESBL positive?

	MIC ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )			
	Cefotaxime	Cefotaxime/CA	Ceftazidime	Ceftazidime/CA
c.	32	$\leq 0.5/4$	16	$\leq 0.25/4$