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**ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this study is to show that the 3M™ Tecra™ Staph aureus Visual Immunoassay (VIA) Kit is an effective method for the detection of *Staphylococcus* species in dietary supplements. Results from the 3M Tecra Staph aureus VIA kit were recorded at 0, 24 and 48 hours. In addition, results from samples that were initially read at 24 hours and then incubated for an additional 24 hours, were recorded using the 3M Tecra Staph aureus VIA kit. Moreover, results from the USP method were captured at the presumptive stage.

**RESULTS**

Table 1 lists the results from the 3M Tecra Staph aureus VIA kit method and the USP method for assessing the detection of *S. aureus* in dietary supplements. Two of the samples showed no recovery of the organism by the 3M Tecra Staph aureus VIA kit method. Gueriau F., Acquatella et al. 2006. "Staphylococcal Antimicrobial Resistance" and related studies (D. 1, 2, & 3). 96(+)/52000 antimicrobial properties that may have affected the results. Further dilution of these types of samples may be required.

**CONCLUSION**

Results with the 3M Tecra Staph aureus VIA kit were similar to those of the USP method in artifically inoculated dietary supplements from one manufacturer. Further tests with this product and other manufacturers are needed to determine if the USP method is more effective in these cases.