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Breaking down barriers

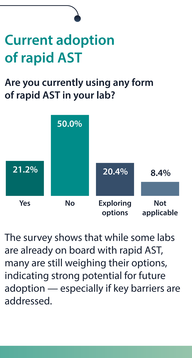
# Addressing the roadblocks to rapid AST as the clinical standard



Rapid antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) is transforming clinical microbiology, but adoption remains inconsistent. An industry-wide survey reveals the landscape of rapid AST implementation, key barriers, and what labs need to move forward.

## Where do labs stand on rapid AST?

Most labs are open to innovation and regularly explore new technologies, though a minority may be more resistant or have fewer opportunities to do so.




## A strong industry focus on innovation and advancements in microbiological testing

**How important is it to you and your lab to stay on the cutting edge of microbiological testing technologies?**




Innovation is a top priority in clinical microbiology, with most labs striving to stay ahead in a rapidly evolving field. The drive for progress is evident.

**Companies like Gradientech are dedicated to leading the field of ultra-rapid AST with breakthrough technologies.**

## Current adoption of rapid AST

**Are you currently using any form of rapid AST in your lab?**




The survey shows that while some labs are already on board with rapid AST, many are still weighing their options, indicating strong potential for future adoption — especially if key barriers are addressed.

## The benefits driving interest in rapid AST

Survey respondents identified key advantages of rapid AST in clinical practice:

- Improved patient outcomes
- Faster turnaround time
- Optimized antibiotic use
- Reduced antibiotic resistance
- Cost-effectiveness

## Key barriers to adoption

The benefits of rapid AST are clear — so why is it not the standard in clinical practice? The survey results offer some insight.

### Top challenges identified

Are there any rapid AST technologies that you are considering but have not yet implemented? Why?




### What would encourage adoption?

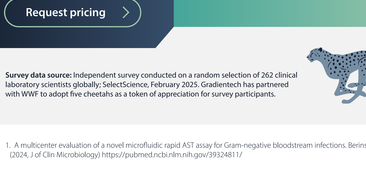
What factors would encourage you to implement a new technology, even if it requires significant workflow changes?




## Training and support: What labs need to succeed

The most effective training methods for rapid AST implementation according to survey respondents are:

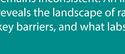
**With expert support, training, and consultation, Gradientech ensures a smooth and efficient ultra-rapid AST experience, from implementation to daily use.**




## The time for rapid AST is now

The survey results highlight a clear demand for faster, more precise, and cost-effective AST solutions. Labs are ready for change — they just need the right technology.

### Introducing the QuickMIC® system from Gradientech



Request pricing

### QuickMIC® provides:

- **Ultra-rapid AST results** within hours, not days
- **Unmatched precision**[1] for confident clinical decision-making
- **A streamlined workflow** that integrates seamlessly into your lab

**The future of AST is here. Ensure your lab stays ahead in this transformation.**

**Survey data source:** Independent survey conducted on a random selection of 262 clinical laboratory scientists globally; SelectScience, February 2025. Gradientech has partnered with WWF to adopt five cheetahs as a token of appreciation for survey participants.



1. A multicenter evaluation of a novel microfluidic rapid AST assay for Gram-negative bloodstream infections. Berinson *et al.*, (2024, J of Clin Microbiology) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39324811/