

Table 2 Microbiological profile of swabs of various food utensils used in the kitchen pre- and post-training

Food utensil	Hospital	No. of samples ^a	Total aerobic mesophilic count ^b		Coliform count ^b		Faecal coliforms ^c		Staphylococci			
			CFU/g or mL wash or 100 cm ²		MPN/g or mL wash or 100 cm ²		%		Count ^b CFU/g or mL wash or 100 cm ²		Coagulase test % ^c	
			Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
Meat knife	MRI	1	1.0×10^3	<200	7	<3	0	NCO	4.0×10^2	<200	0	NCO
	GAN	1	5.0×10^3	<200	200	<3	0	NCO	2.0×10^2	<200	0	NCO
Vegetable knife	MRI	1	4.0×10^3	<200	210	<3	0	NCO	2.0×10^3	<200	0	NCO
	GAN	1	5.0×10^4	2.0×10^2	1200	<3	0	NCO	2.0×10^3	<200	0	NCO
Meat chopping board	MRI	1	1.2×10^5	2.0×10^3	210	14	100	0	8.0×10^5	1.2×10^3	100	0
	GAN	1	4.0×10^3	8.0×10^3	200	7	0	0	1.0×10^3	<200	0	NCO
Salad chopping board	MRI	1	1.4×10^5	4.0×10^2	1200	4	0	0	1.4×10^4	6.0×10^2	0	0
	GAN	1	1.0×10^5	2.0×10^2	210	<3	0	NCO	1.4×10^4	4.0×10^2	0	0
Cooking pan	MRI	1	1.0×10^3	<200	70	<3	0	NCO	6.0×10^2	<200	0	NCO
	GAN	1	1.0×10^7	6.0×10^2	<3	<3	NCO	NCO	<200	1.0×10^3	NCO	0
Roasting pan	MRI	1	1.0×10^4	4.0×10^2	15	4	0	0	1.0×10^3	2.0×10^2	0	0
	GAN	1	1.4×10^3	2.0×10^4	9	<3	0	NCO	<200	2.0×10^2	NCO	0
Patient tray	MRI	5	2.6×10^2	<200	<3	<3	0	NCO	2.3×10^2	<200	0	NCO
	GAN	5	2.6×10^2	<200	<3	<3	NCO	NCO	<200	<200	0	NCO
Food distribution container	MRI	2	<200	<200	<3	<3	0	NCO	<200	<200	0	NCO
	GAN	2	<200	<200	<3	<3	NCO	NCO	<200	<200	NCO	NCO

^aEach number of samples was collected before training and again after training.

^bValues shown are the geometric mean.

^cPercentage of positive samples.

CFU = colony forming units; MPN = most probable number; MRI = Medical Research Institute hospital; GAN = Gamal Abdel Nasser hospital; NCO = not carried out.