

Table 2 Sputum collection, quality and culture results according to the Pneumonia Patient Outcome Research Team class in 1362 patients with community-acquired pneumonia

Characteristic	Risk class I, II		Risk class III		Risk class IV, V		Total		P-value
	n/N	%	n/N	%	n/N	%	n/N	%	
Sputum collection done	131/282	46.5	102/249	41.0	306/831	36.8	539/1362	39.6	0.015
Good quality sputum	122/131	87.1	93/102	91.2	292/306	98.3	507/539	94.1	< 0.001
Organism isolated from sputum culture	45/122	36.9	28/93	30.1	98/292	33.6	171/507	33.7	0.579