Reply to the Letter to the Editor

Reply to the Letter to the Editor: False-positive Cultures After Native Knee Aspiration: True or False

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To the Editor,

We agree that a culture-positive specimen suggests that bacteria are present, and we agree that the term “false-positive” needs to be revisited. Clinicians cannot cavalierly dismiss any culture result that was properly obtained. This highlights the impor-

tance of meticulous harvesting and laboratory technique when handling specimens.

The anaerobic conditions of an agar with kanamycin and vancomycin may affect the detection of *Propionibacterium*. Although not included in the manuscript, our laboratory used a blood agar without kanamycin and

vancomycin, which would not interfere with the ability of these cultures to detect *Propionibacterium*.

(RE: Jennings JM, Dennis DA, Kim RH, Miner TM, Yang CC, McNabb DC. False-positive cultures after native knee aspiration: True or false. *Clin Orthop Relat Res*. 2017;475:1840-1843).

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