

Q-LINEA

Sustainable healthcare for a new generation

2026 Q1 Report

April 30th, 2026



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Topics for today

- ❖ **Commercial progress update**
- ❖ **FDA clearance** for expanded US panel
- ❖ **Priorities** for 2026
- ❖ **Financial update**
- ❖ **Respond** to your questions

Key messages for today



- 1 **Q1 2026 was a record quarter** with shipment of seven ASTar instruments and our highest demand for consumables
- 2 **FDA clearance** of our expanded US menu clearly differentiates ASTar and meets key physician requirements for rapid AST
- 3 **US market expected to jump-start from Q2 2026** following FDA clearance of expanded menu
- 4 **Planned launch of dedicated Isolate kit during Q3 2026** under RUO registration to meet existing customer requests
- 5 **Operating costs dropped below 11 MSEK per month** as impact of restructuring and ongoing savings activities is felt

Q-linea revolutionising AST | Flagship AStar platform designed to save lives



1st

Fully-automated, random access platform

~2

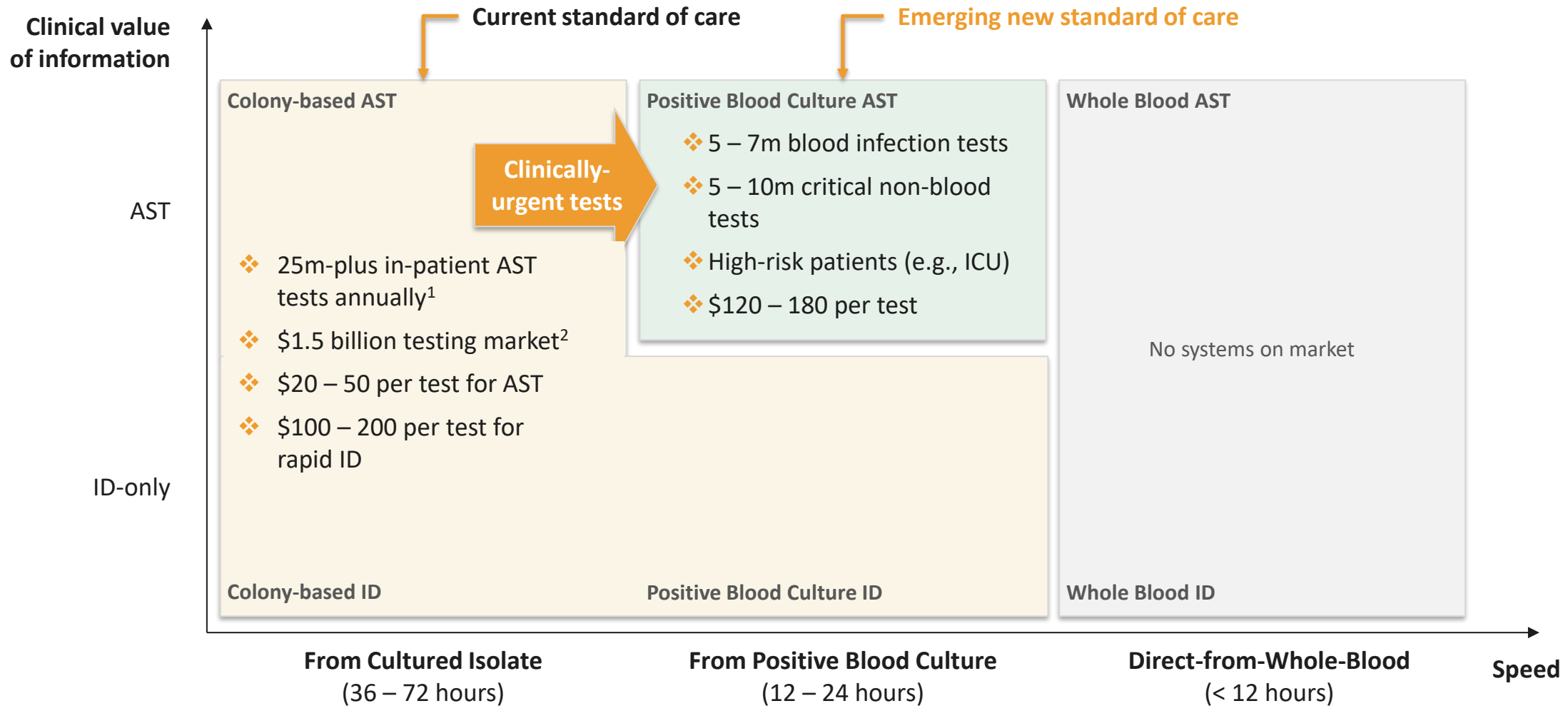
Minutes hands-on time
simple interface, load-and-go system

~6

Hours turn-around time
saves lives, money and clinical effort

- Comprehensive menu
- High reproducibility
- High throughput with 12 samples in parallel

A new standard of care | Critical patient testing moving to rapid AST



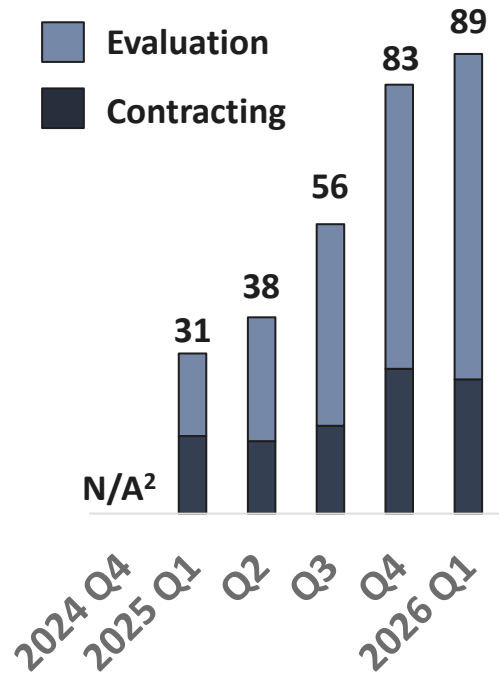
1. Global market in prioritized countries; excludes e.g., China, India, Russia and S. America

2. Source: January 2023 Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing A Global Strategic Business Report MCP10315, Global Industry Analysts, Inc.

Source: Clinical Values Project Quant

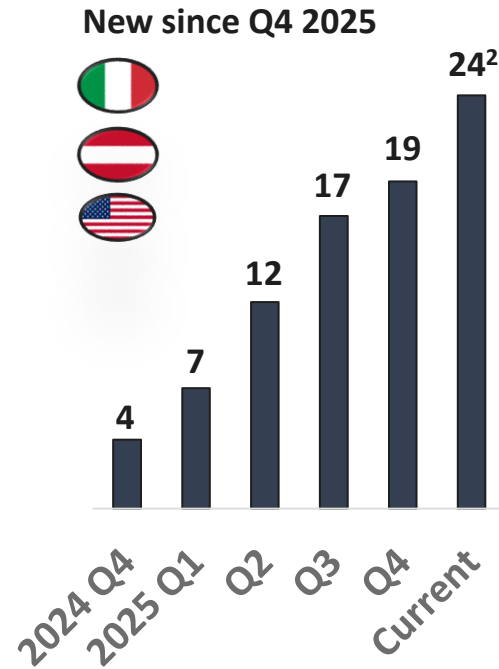
Pipeline progression | Evaluation activity accelerating driven by US market

In Evaluation and/or Contracting process¹



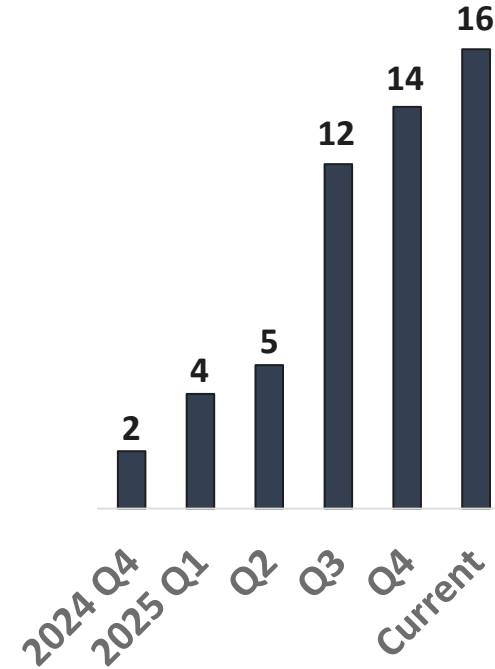
>80 decisions expected during 2026

Contracted ASTars



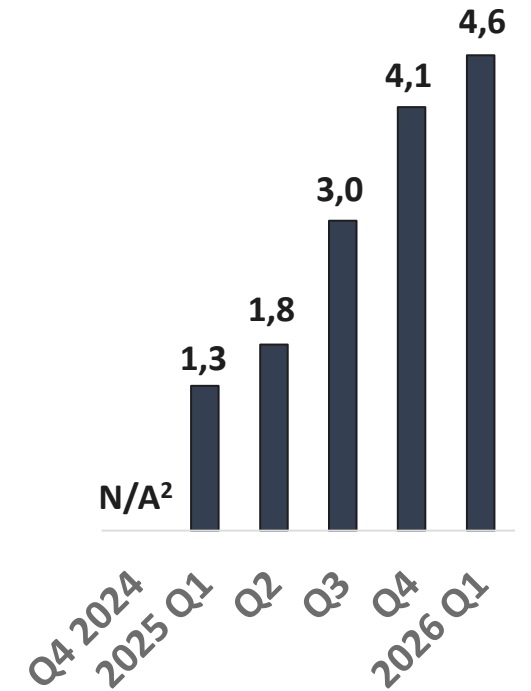
PO received and instrument shipped

ASTars in Clinical Use



Installed and running clinical patient tests

ASTar tests (MSEK)



Rolling 12-month consumables revenue

1) Does not include Distribution markets

2) Comparable consolidated data not available

3) As of April 30, 2026; includes 3 ASTar contracts signed during April 2026

FDA clearance | Expanded ASTar panel now available in US

Reportable ranges for antimicrobials and bacteria covered by ASTar BC G-Kit (US). Dots indicate where MIC results and interpretations (when applicable) will be presented.

Antimicrobial class	Antimicrobial agent	A. baumannii complex	C. freundii complex	C. koseri	E. cloacae complex	E. coli	K. aerogenes	K. oxytoca	K. pneumoniae group	M. morganii	P. mirabilis	P. vulgaris	S. marcescens	P. aeruginosa
Penicillin	Ampicillin													
β-lactam combination agents	Ampicillin-sulbactam ¹	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
β-lactam combination agents	Ceftolozane-tazobactam		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
β-lactam combination agents	Ceftazidime-avibactam ²		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
β-lactam combination agents	Meropenem-vaborbactam ³		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
β-lactam combination agents	Piperacillin-tazobactam ⁴	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Cefazolin		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Cefepime		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Cefotaxime		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Ceftriaxone		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Cefoxitin		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Cefuroxime		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Cephalosporin	Ceftazidime	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Monobactam	Aztreonam		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carbapenem	Ertapenem		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Carbapenem	Meropenem	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Aminoglycoside	Gentamicin		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Aminoglycoside	Tobramycin		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Aminoglycoside	Amikacin	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Tetracycline	Tigecycline		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Fluoroquinolone	Ciprofloxacin		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Fluoroquinolone	Levofloxacin		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Miscellaneous	Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole ⁵	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

¹ Ampicillin-sulbactam in the ratio 2:1

² For susceptibility testing purposes, the concentration of avibactam is fixed at 4 µg/mL

³ For susceptibility testing purposes, the concentration of vaborbactam is fixed at 8 µg/mL

⁴ For susceptibility testing purposes, the concentration of tazobactam is fixed at 4 µg/mL

⁵ Trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole in the ratio 1:19

What is different ...

- ❖ + 93 new drug-bug combinations added (now 215 in total)
- ❖ Clinically important drugs now available, e.g., Ceftriaxone, Ertapenem, others
- ❖ Panel updated with all the latest FDA breakpoints

What does this mean for customers ...

- ❖ Broadest antibiotic and pathogen menu available on the market
- ❖ No longer 'critical clinical gaps' for physicians
- ❖ More options for therapy adjustment decisions
- ❖ More confidence to de-escalate to oral therapy

What does this mean for Q-linea ...

- ❖ Pipeline of customers awaiting 'v2 clearance' now addressable
- ❖ ASTar highly differentiated versus competitors for clinical utility
- ❖ Complements market-leading positioning on workflow / ease-of-use

US panel | Now clearly differentiated in the market for clinical utility


ASTar BC G- FDA v2 menu versus 'next best alternative'

	A. baumannii complex	C. freundii complex	C. koseri	E. cloacae complex	E. coli	K. aerogenes	K. oxytoca	K. pneumoniae group	M. morganii	P. mirabilis	P. vulgaris	S. marcescens	P. aeruginosa	Competitor only	Both systems	ASTar only
Ampicillin					*				*					0	0	2
Ampicillin-sulbactam	*							*						0	3	5
Ceftolozane-tazobactam														1	7	3
Ceftazidime-avibactam							*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	8	4
Meropenem-vaborbactam								*	*	*	*	*	*	0	8	3
Piperacillin-tazobactam								*	*	*	*	*	*	0	5	5
Cefazolin				*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	5
Cefepime	*						*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	7	4
Cefotaxime							*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	9
Ceftriaxone							*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	6	4
Cefoxitin							*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	5
Cefuroxime				*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	5
Ceftazidime	*						*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	6	6
Aztreonam		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	12
Ertapenem		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	4	5
Meropenem		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	8	5
Gentamicin		*	*				*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	8
Tobramycin											*	*	*	1	9	1
Amikacin	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	12
Tigecycline		*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	8
Ciprofloxacin		*						*	*	*	*	*	*	0	9	3
Levofloxacin								*	*	*	*	*	*	0	11	1
Trim.-sulfamethoxazole	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	3	6
Amoxicillin-clavulanate					*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	4	0	0
Imipenem														8	0	0
Competitor only	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	2	0	1	0	2	1	14		
Both systems	2	5	8	10	14	9	9	12	0	9	6	3	7	94		
ASTar only	3	14	13	6	8	5	12	10	12	12	12	13	1			121

Dilution range Competitor	Dilution range ASTar
-	8
6	8
9	9
9	10
5	9
6	12
-	8
7	10
-	7
7	7
-	8
-	8
9	10
-	10
4	9
6	12
-	9
5	11
-	10
-	11
4	8
6	9
2	9
3	-
5	-

- ❖ ASTar now with c. **2x the drug-bug combinations**
- ❖ 9 drugs not available at all on the next-best on-market alternative
- ❖ 1 pathogen (M. morganii) not available on next-best alternative
- ❖ **>60 combinations of 'high clinical relevance'** available only on ASTar
- ❖ ASTar with widest dilution ranges on market (better MIC¹ value)
- ❖ ... in addition to previous workflow and ease-of-use advantages

1) MIC: Minimum inhibitory concentration, used to determine treatment selection and dosing. Fewer dilution steps means MIC values may need to be extrapolated (i.e., not a 'true MIC') and/or may not align with updated breakpoints

 Denotes drug-bug combination of high clinical relevance for physicians

Voice-of-customer | Actionable diagnostic results at Baylor, Scott & White

Publication describing ASTar impact in real-world setting with the team at BS&W, Texas (USA)



- ❖ Pioneering work with rapid AST by the team at Baylor, Scott & White was recognised in *Microbiology Spectrum* in April 2026
- ❖ Confirms **high clinical and operational performance of ASTar**
- ❖ Confirms **significantly faster results than SoC** (13.1 hours vs. 51.2 hours)
- ❖ Clinician-led retrospective patient chart review suggests **results could have influenced 83% of cases**, including 66% of cases de-escalated and 14% of cases escalated
- ❖ Highlights **significant 'downstream' benefits** from earlier AST results with potential for fewer side-effects, less overall antibiotic exposure, earlier discharge or switch to oral therapy, reduced length-of-stay, etc.

Source: *Advancing antimicrobial therapy: evaluating the ASTar (Q-linea) System for rapid AST in Gram-negative bloodstream infections*, *Microbiology Spectrum* April 2026; S. Chaudhary, N. Henry, P. Binsol, et al.

Coming soon | Planned launch of dedicated Isolate (non-blood) kit

- ❖ Two posters by AStar customers presented at ESCMID (Munich, April 2026) demonstrating:
 - ❖ Performance of AStar for isolates equal-or-better than positive blood culture results
 - ❖ Establish criteria and workflow that other labs can use
- ❖ Q-linea poster at ESCMID gives evidence on higher sample volume of performance, especially on highly-resistant pathogens
- ❖ Planned launch of AStar G- Isolate Kit for RUO¹ during Q3 2026
- ❖ Timing and specifications of a future product for clinical use to be confirmed pending market feedback

A breakthrough approach for rapid antimicrobial susceptibility testing in Gram-negative bloodstream infections from positive blood culture and isolates

Giulia Gatti¹, Maria Sofia Montanari¹, Anna Marzucco¹, Claudia Colosimo², Laura Grumiro¹, Valentina Arfili¹, Pasqua Schiavone¹, Francesco Congestini¹, Elisabetta Giacobazzi¹, Matteo Pavoni¹, Alessandra Mistral De Pascali¹, Alessandra Scagliarini¹, Vittorio Sambri^{1,2}, Monica Cricca^{1,2}

¹ The Greater Romagna Hub Laboratory, Operative Unit of Microbiology, Cesena, Italy
² University of Bologna, Department of Medical and Surgical Sciences, Bologna, Italy
 * authors equally contributed to the study

Feasibility Evaluation of the AStar System for Rapid Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Using Cultured Gram-Negative Isolates

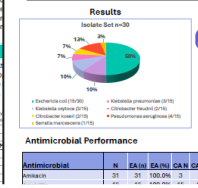
Noah Henry, Shikha Choudhary, Aji Rao and Manohar Mutnal

Introduction

Rapid antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) is necessary for providing optimal and timely treatment of invasive bacterial infections, especially in hospital populations.

Methods

Thirty Gram-negative isolates from positive blood cultures were included in the study.



A proof-of-concept evaluation of rapid MIC-based antimicrobial susceptibility testing from colonies using AStar®

N. Brown¹, E. Hill¹, I. Nilaksson¹, R. Sawicka¹, M. Borg¹, L. Levin¹, L. Brokmar¹, A. Karman¹, M. Myers¹, J. Cravé¹, V. Gupta¹

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Background

A major part of clinical microbiology standard of care (SoC) antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) is via broth microdilution (BM).

Conclusions

- Earlier availability of susceptibility information may help improve management of some bacterial infections other than bacteremia.
- The feasibility study of the AStar rapid AST system direct from isolated colonies indicates good overall antibiotic performance against high to resistant Gram-negative pathogens.
- These findings represent potential value of AST for early availability of antibiotic AST results directly from non-blood isolate cultures.

20402
20924
21577
24500

Feasibility Evaluation of the AStar System for Rapid Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing Using Cultured Gram-Negative Isolates

Introduction

Gram-negative bloodstream infections (GNBSI) are associated with high mortality and morbidity. Rapid antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) is necessary for providing optimal and timely treatment of invasive bacterial infections, especially in hospital populations.

Methods

Thirty Gram-negative isolates from positive blood cultures were included in the study.

Results

When comparing VITEK®2 and AStar from positive blood culture (N=20), and 4 VME (N=7), interestingly, in the setting of a complete resistance approximately 4 days before the isolated colony samples, 214 antibiotics were analyzed, respectively. Error distributions are reported in table 1.

Antimicrobial Performance

Antimicrobial	N	FA (%)	EA (%)	CA (%)	CI (%)
Amikacin	31	21	100.0%	3	3

ESCMID Global

Flowchart: Rapid AST from Gram-negative colonies using AStar in this lab's G- Isolate Kit (Investigation use only kit)

Overnight incubation → 1.5 colonies (isolated) in 100 µL of saline → +10% bacterial suspension → AST on AStar G- Isolate Kit

Resistance distribution

Organism	AMK (%)	GEN (%)	TBR (%)	CIP (%)	LEV (%)	MRP (%)	IMP (%)	COL (%)	VAN (%)	LNZ (%)
Acinetobacter baumannii	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Antibiotic performance

Antimicrobial	N	FA (%)	EA (%)	CA (%)	CI (%)
Amikacin	31	21	100.0%	3	3

Dr. Manohar Mutnal of Baylor, Scott & White presenting poster at ESCMID 2026, Munich

1) RUO: Research Use Only



Short-term priorities | Accelerate pipeline conversion

Commercial priorities

- ❖ **Conversion drive** for all US customers awaiting 'v2 menu'
- ❖ Support Italian customers to **increase testing rate** (% of PBCs)
- ❖ **Expand geographic footprint** capitalising on high interest for ASTar globally (new distribution markets)

Clinical and Development priorities

- ❖ Complete **dedicated non-blood testing kit** planned for launch in Q3 2026
- ❖ Continue work on 'next generation therapeutics' (i.e., new drugs)
- ❖ Execute next tranche of **cost-down activities to reduce CoGS** (consumables and instrument)

Financial priorities

- ❖ Continued **cost discipline** with OPEX below SEK 11.0 million trending down through 2026
- ❖ Maintain **strong capital recovery** on instrument placements (capital sales, rental fees, etc.)
- ❖ Track **gross margin expansion** anticipated with CoGS reductions and consumables volumes

Financial highlights | Q1 2026

REVENUES

- ❖ Net sales in the quarter of SEK 2.0 million, lower than same period last year due to *lower capital sales* of ASTar in the quarter
- ❖ Consumables (recurring income) still on a low level but *60 percent higher* than the same quarter 2025 (SEK 1.4 vs 0.9 million). Recurring income driven by the installed base of ASTar AND where these ASTars are installed.
- ❖ We *expect to see an increase* in the average pullthrough per instrument when US installations are expected to increase post FDA clearance of the V2-panel.

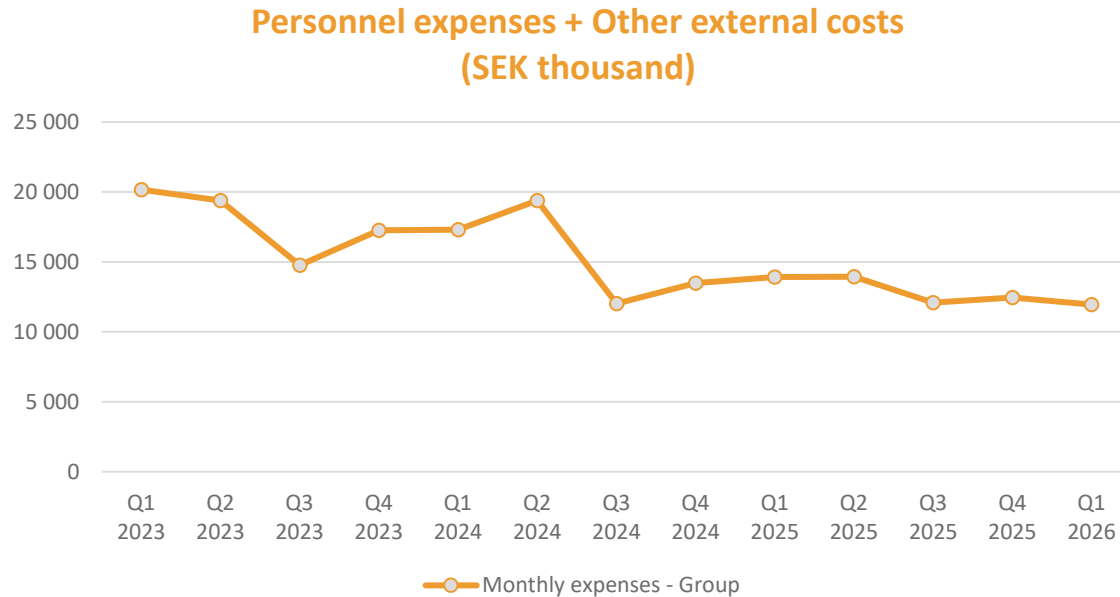
OPEX

- ❖ Q4 announced reorganisation is now completed. In the Q4 presentation we gave an OPEX outlook of SEK 11 – 11.5 million/month for 2026 (SEK 12.5 million in Q4 2025 adjusted for reorg.cost reserve). Reported OPEX for the quarter was SEK 32.1 million or *SEK 10.7 million/month* which we believe is *a sustainable level through 2026*.

Cashflow

- ❖ Liquidity 31 March: SEK 223.9 million or SEK 34.2 million lower than beginning of the year – *as planned*.
- ❖ The expected higher business in coming quarters will impact liquidity short term depending on mix of reagent-rental versus capital sales placements
- ❖ Lead times for instrument production will impact cash flow in Q2 and Q3; expected to track to plan

OPEX development | Reducing operating costs through Q1 2023 – Q1 2026



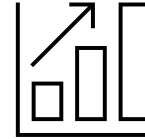
- ❖ EBIT improvement during the past three years has primarily come from **lower operating expenses**
- ❖ EBIT improvement the next coming three years will primarily come from **sales and gross profit**
- ❖ OPEX has come down from SEK 20.2 million per month in Q1 2023 to SEK 10.7 million in Q1 2026, or **47 percent lower**
- ❖ Still high focus on spending with some further cost reductions coming from **consolidation of facilities** in Uppsala, Sweden
- ❖ No. of employees development:

○ Q1 2023	149	○ Q1 2025	97
○ Q1 2024	126	○ Q2 2025	87
○ Q2 2024	99	○ Q3 2025	83
○ Q3 2024	97	○ Q4 2025	82
○ Q4 2024	94	○ Q1 2026	73

Key topics for Q-linea going forward financially

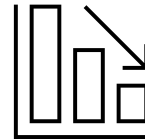
Increase consumables sales

- ❖ Consumables sales is recurring by nature and the main building block of our business model
- ❖ Sell and install new ASTar; shortening sales cycles will be a key
- ❖ Increase share of new contracts in the US market → high(er) pull-through per instrument
 - ❖ New FDA-clearance will be instrumental



Maintain a low OPEX level

- ❖ We will strive for to keep it at SEK 11 million or lower per month
- ❖ New commercial resources for US and Global markets offset by savings elsewhere



Secure ASTar financing

- ❖ Anticipated higher business volumes (mix of capital sales and reagent rental contracts) will drive the need for ASTar financing
- ❖ The higher the business activity in 2026/27, the better the chances to acquire ASTar-financing
- ❖ Discussions ongoing, timing will be influenced by growth trajectory, where the US market is a key component

**Thank
you!**

Questions?

