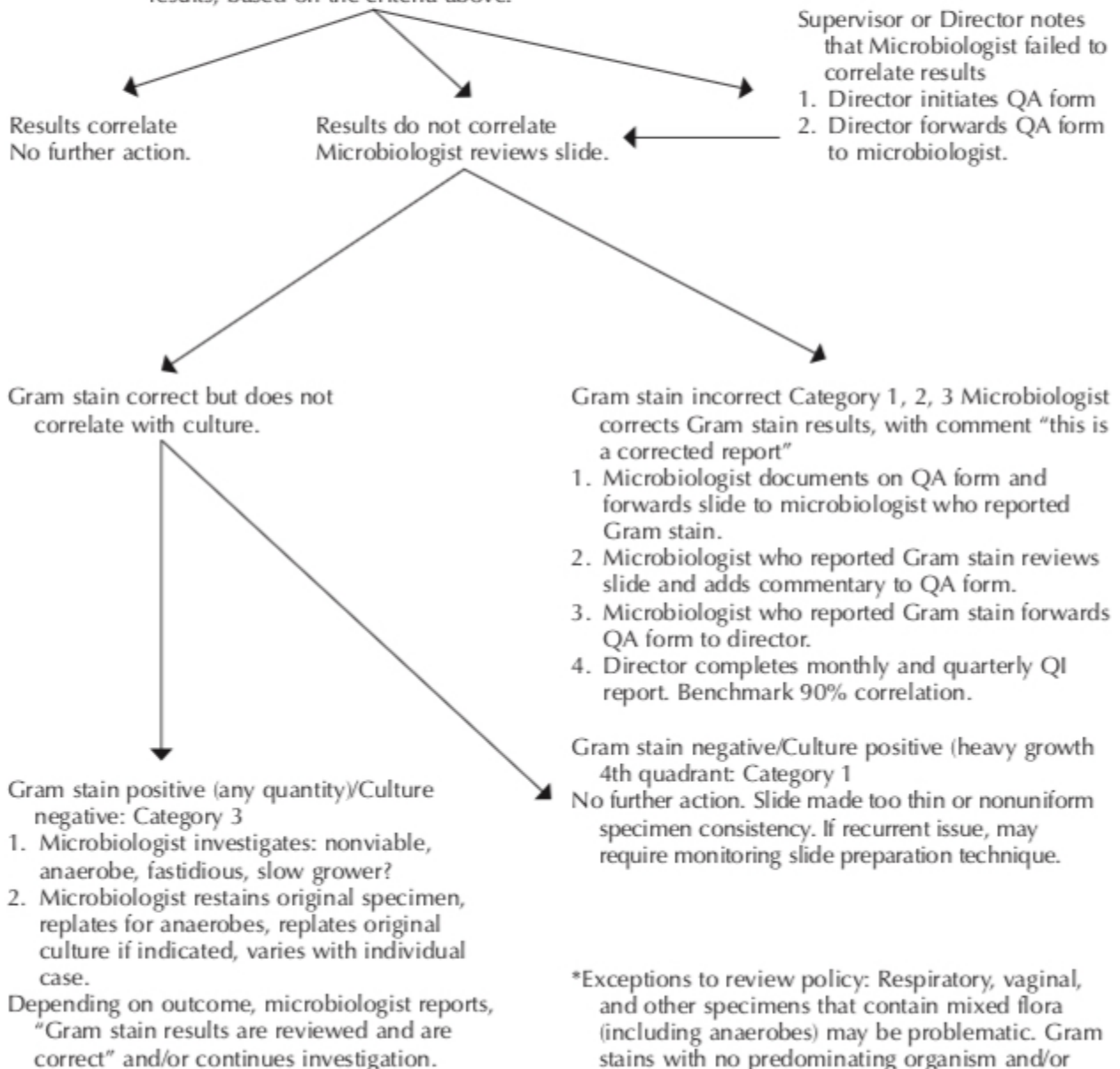


Gram Stain Review Policy*

Category 1	Gram Stain Negative/Culture Positive
Gram Stain:	No Organism(S) Seen
Culture:	Heavy Growth 4Th Quadrant (>100,000 For Bal Specimens)
Category 2	Gram Stain Mismatch
Gram Stain:	Organism(S) Seen
Culture:	Mismatch Gram Reaction/Morphology Versus Growth
Category 3	Gram Stain Positive/Culture Negative
Gram Stain:	Organism(S) Seen (Any Quantity)
Culture:	No Growth

Microbiologist correlates Gram stain and culture results, based on the criteria above.



*Exceptions to review policy: Respiratory, vaginal, and other specimens that contain mixed flora (including anaerobes) may be problematic. Gram stains with no predominating organism and/or cultures with only normal flora in these body sites generally do not require review.