Vaginalis Agar Base

M1057

Vaginalis Agar Base with supplement is used for qualitative isolation and differentiation of *Gardnerella vaginalis* from clinical specimens.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Casein enzymic hydrolysate	12.000
Peptic digest of animal tissue	15.000
Beef extract	3.000
Yeast extract	3.000
Corn starch	1.000
Sodium chloride	5.000
Agar	13.500
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.4±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 52.5 grams in 950 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Dispense in 95 ml amounts and sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to around 50-55°C and aseptically add 5 ml of sterile anticoagulated human blood to every 95 ml sterile basal medium. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

Gardnerella vaginalis is a facultatively anaerobic gram-variable rod. It has been demonstrated to cause a wide variety of infections; however, it is most commonly recognized for its role as one of the organisms responsible for bacterial vaginosis (BV). BV is the most common cause of vaginitis and the most common infection encountered in the outpatient gynaecological setting. Originally Ellner et al (1) developed a blood agar namely Columbia Agar for rapid growth of the haemolytic organisms with improved pigmentation and defined haemolytic reactions. Greenwood et al (2) further modified this medium by increasing the peptone concentration and used human blood instead of sheep blood for the isolation and differentiation of *G. vaginalis* based on beta haemolysis (3, 4). Vaginalis Agar Base is used for the isolation of *G. vaginalis* from vaginal discharges (5).Peptic digest of animal tissue, casein enzymic hydrolysate, yeast extract and beef extract provide nitrogenous compounds, carbon, sulphur, vitamin B complex and trace ingredients required for growth. Cornstarch serves as the energy source. Blood supplies additional nutrients and also aids in identification.

Typical colonies of *G. vaginalis* appear small and white coloured. This medium is recommended for determin ation of haemolytic reaction of *G. vaginalis* and not for other microorganisms. If the specimen is suspected to contain streptococci or other haemolytic microorganisms, then a Soyabean Casein Digest Agar (with 5% v/v sheep blood) plate should be inoculated parallel to this medium to ensure the haemolytic reaction.

Quality Control

Appearance
Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

Gelling
Firm, comparable with 1.35% Agar gel.

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium
Basal medium: Yellow coloured clear to slightly opalescent gel. After addition of 5% v/v sterile anticoagulated human blood, cherry red coloured, opaque gel forms in Petri plates.

Reaction
Reaction of 5.25% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.4±0.2

pH

7.20-7.60

Cultural Response

M1057: Cultural characteristics observed in an aerobic atmosphere containing 3-10% CO2 with added 5% v/v sterile anticoagulated human blood after an incubation at 35-37°C for 48 hours.

Organism	Growth	Haemolysis
Cultural Response		
Gardnerella vaginalis ATCC 14018	good-luxuriant	beta (diffused)

Storage and Shelf Life

Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 2 - 8°C. Use before expiry date on the label.

Reference

1. Ellner P. D., Stoessel C. J., Drakeford E., Vasi F., 1966, Am. J. Clin. Pathol., 45 : 502.
2. Greenwood J. R., Martin M. J., Mack E. G., 1977, Health Lab. Sci., 14: 102.
3. Greenwood J. R. and Pickett M. J., 1980, Int. J. Syst. Bacteriol., 30: 170.
4. Piot P., Van Dyek E., Goodfellow M., Falkow S., 1980, J. Gen. Microbiol., 119: 373.
5. MacFaddin J. F., 1985, Media for Isolation-Cultivation-Identification-Maintenance of Medical Bacteria, Vol. 1, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore

Revision : 1 / 2011

Disclaimer :

User must ensure suitability of the product(s) in their application prior to use. Products conform solely to the information contained in this and other related HiMedia™ publications. The information contained in this publication is based on our research and development work and is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. HiMedia™ Laboratories Pvt Ltd reserves the right to make changes to specifications and information related to the products at any time. Products are not intended for human or animal or therapeutic use but for laboratory,diagnostic, research or further manufacturing use only, unless otherwise specified. Statements contained herein should not be considered as a warranty of any kind, expressed or implied, and no liability is accepted for infringement of any patents.