

EC Broth, Granulated

GM127

Intended Use:

EC Broth, Granulated is recommended for the selective enumeration of presumptive *Escherichia coli* by MPN technique from water samples and from clinical samples.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Tryptone	20.000
Lactose	5.000
Bile salts mixture	1.500
Dipotassium phosphate	4.000
Monopotassium phosphate	1.500
Sodium chloride	5.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	6.9±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 37 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat if necessary to dissolve the medium completely. Dispense in test tubes containing inverted Durhams tube. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Adjust the concentration of medium in accordance with sample size.

Principle And Interpretation

EC Medium is used for detection of coliforms during bacteriological examination of water, milk and foods. It was originally described by Hajna and Perry (1). This medium was later used by Fishbein and Surkiewicz to carry out *Escherichia coli* confirmatory tests (2). It is also used in MPN methods (3) and is often used for confirmation of coliforms. The procedure employing EC Medium provides information regarding the source of the coliform group (fecal or non-fecal) when used as a confirmatory test (4). EC Broth should not be used for the direct isolation of coliforms since prior enrichment in a presumptive medium for optimal recovery of fecal coliforms is required.

Tryptone provides nitrogenous and carbonaceous compounds, long chain amino acids, vitamins and essential growth nutrients. Lactose is the fermentable sugar. Bile salts mixture inhibit gram-positive bacteria especially bacilli and faecal Streptococci. Phosphates control the pH during fermentation of lactose. Gas production in a fermentation tube within 24 hour or less is a presumptive evidence of the presence of coliform bacteria. This medium can be used at 37°C for the detection of coliform organisms or at 44.5°C for the isolation of *Escherichia coli* from water and shellfish) or 45.5°C for foods.

When using sample more than 10 ml, the medium must be reconstituted at a concentration equivalent to that specified on the directions, once the sample is added, the working procedure is as follows:

Transfer a loopful of culture from all the tubes of Lauryl Sulphate Broth (M080) showing gas formation within 24 hours and from all the tubes showing bacterial growth within 48 hours to EC Broth tubes. Within 30 minutes from the inoculum, place the tubes in a water bath and incubate at 44°C for 24 hours. Consider the growth showing gas production as positive.

Calculate the density of the faecal coliform organisms by using MPN tables. False-negative reactions in recovering coliforms from water supplies can occur due to low pH, refrigeration and use of bactericidal or bacteriostatic agents (5).

Gas formation at 44.5°C or 45.5°C (and 37°C) *Escherichia coli* , possibly also other coliforms.

Gas formation at 37°C

Coliform bacteria without *Escherichia coli*

Type of specimen

Clinical - faeces ; Food samples; Water sample

Specimen Collection and Handling

For clinical samples follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens as per established guidelines (7,8).

For food and dairy samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection and processing as per guidelines (4,6,10).

For water samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection, processing as per guidelines and local standards.(3,5)

After use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding.

Warning and Precautions

In Vitro diagnostic use only. Read the label before opening the container. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Follow good microbiological lab practices while handling specimens and culture. Standard precautions as per established guidelines should be followed while handling clinical specimens. Safety guidelines may be referred in individual safety data sheets.

Limitations

- 1.For identification, organisms must be in pure culture.
- 2.Morphological, biochemical and/or serological tests should be performed for final identification.

Performance and Evaluation

Performance of the medium is expected when used as per the direction on the label within the expiry period when stored at recommended temperature.

Quality Control

Appearance

Cream to yellow homogeneous granular media.

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Yellow coloured, clear solution without any precipitate

Reaction

Reaction of 3.7% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 6.9±0.2

pH

6.70-7.10

Cultural Response

Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 44.5°C ± 0.2 for 24 hours.

Cultural Response

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Gas
Cultural Response			
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> ATCC 13883 (00097*)	50-100	good-luxuriant	positive reaction
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853 (00025*)	50-100	fair to good	negative reaction
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i> ATCC 29212 (00087*)	≥10 ³	inhibited	
<i>Bacillus subtilis subsp. spizizenii</i> ATCC 6633 (00003*)	≥10 ³	inhibited	
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922 (00013*)	50-100	good-luxuriant	positive reaction
# <i>Klebsiella aerogenes</i> ATCC 13048 (00175*)	≥10 ³	inhibited	

Key *- Corresponding WDCM Numbers ; # - Formerly known as *Enterobacter aerogenes*

Storage and Shelf Life

Store below 30°C in a tightly closed container and the prepared medium at 2 - 8°C. Use before expiry date on the label. On opening, product should be properly stored dry, after tightly capping the bottle in order to prevent lump formation due to the hygroscopic nature of the product. Improper storage of the product may lead to lump formation. Store in dry ventilated area protected from extremes of temperature and sources of ignition. Seal the container tightly after use. Use before expiry date on the label. Product performance is best if used within stated expiry period.

Disposal

User must ensure safe disposal by autoclaving and/or incineration of used or unusable preparations of this product. Follow established laboratory procedures in disposing of infectious materials and material that comes into contact with clinical sample must be decontaminated and disposed of in accordance with current laboratory techniques (7,8).

Reference

1. Hajna A. A. and Perry C. A., 1943, Am. J. Public Health, 33:550.
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3. Greenberg A. E., Clesceri L. S. and Eaton A. D., (Eds.), 2005, Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater, 21st ed., APHA, Washington, D.C.
4. Marshall, (Ed.), 1993, Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products, 16th Ed., American Public Health Association, Washington, D.C.
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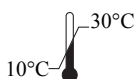
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In vitro diagnostic medical device



CE Marking



Storage temperature



Do not use if package is damaged



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