

Technical Data

HiCromeTM UTI Agar

M1353

Intended use

Recommended for presumptive identification and confirmation of microorganisms mainly causing urinary tract infections, can also be used for testing water, food, environmental and other clinical samples.

Composition**

Ingredients	g / L
Peptone, special	15.000
Chromogenic mixture	2.450
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	6.8 ± 0.2

^{**}Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 32.45 gram in 1000 ml purified /distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

Urinary tract infections are bacterial infections affecting parts of urinary tract. The common symptoms of urinary tract infection are urgency and frequency of micturition, with associated discomfort or pain. The common condition is cystitis, due to infection of the bladder with a uropathogenic bacterium, which most frequently is *Escherichia coli*, but sometimes *Staphylococcus saprophyticus* or especially in hospital-acquired infections, *Klebsiella* species, *Proteus mirabilis*, other coliforms, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* or *Enterococcus faecalis* (1). HiCromeTM UTI Agar is formulated on basis of work carried out by Pezzlo (2) Wilkie et al (3), Friedman et al (4), Murray et al (5), Soriano and Ponte (6) and Merlino et al (7). These media are recommended for the detection of urinary tract pathogens where HiCromeTM UTI Agar has broader application as a general nutrient agar for isolation of various microorganisms. It facilitates and expedites the identification of some gram-negative bacteria and some gram-positive bacteria on the basis of different contrasted colony colours produced by reactions of genus or species specific enzymes with two chromogenic substrates. The chromogenic substrates are specifically cleaved by enzymes produced by *Enterococcus* species, *E.coli* and coliforms. Presence of amino acids like phenylalanine and tryptophan from peptones helps for detection of tryptophan deaminase activity, indicating the presence of *Proteus* species, *Morganella* species and *Providencia* species.

One of the chromogenic substrate is cleaved by ß-glucosidase possessed by Enterococci resulting in formation of blue colonies. *E.coli* produce pink colonies due to the enzyme ß-D-galactosidase that cleaves the other chromogenic substrate. Further confirmation of *E.coli* can be done by performing the indole test. Coliforms produce purple coloured colonies due to cleavage of both the chromogenic substrate. Colonies of *Proteus, Morganella* and *Providencia* species appear brown because of tryptophan deaminase activity. Peptone special provides nitrogenous, carbonaceous compounds, long chain amino acids, vitamins and other essential growth nutrients. This medium can be made selective by supplementation with antibiotics for detecting microorganisms associated with hospital borne infections.

Type of specimen

Clinical samples: urine, faeces, etc.; Food samples, Water samples.

Specimen Collection and Handling

For clinical samples follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens as per established guidelines (8,9).

For food and dairy samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection and processing as per guidelines (10,11). For water samples, follow appropriate techniques for sample collection, processing as per guidelines and local standards (12). After use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding.

Warning and Precautions

In Vitro diagnostic use. For professional 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.

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Limitations

1. Since it is an enzyme-substrate based reaction, the intensity of colour may vary with isolates.

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 free flowing powder

Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light amber coloured, clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in Petri plates

Reaction

Reaction of 3.24% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH: 6.8±0.2

pН

6.60-7.20

Cultural Response

Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 16-24 hours.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Recovery	Colour of Colony
Escherichia coli ATCC 25922 (00013*)	50-100	luxuriant	>=70%	Purple to magenta
Enterococcus faecalis ATCC 29212 (00087*)	50-100	luxuriant	>=70%	blue-green (small)
Klebsiella pneumoniae ATCC 13883 (00097*)	50-100	luxuriant	>=70%	blue to purple, mucoid
Proteus mirabilis ATCC 12453	50-100	luxuriant	>=70%	light brown
Pseudomonas aeruginosa ATCC 27853 (00025*)	50-100	luxuriant	>=70%	colourless (greenish pigment may be observed)
Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus ATCC 25923 (00034*)	50-100	luxuriant	>=70%	golden yellow

Key: *Corresponding WDCM numbers.

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 15-25°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. 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 (8,9).

Reference

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In vitro diagnostic medical device



Storage temperature



CE Marking



Do not use if package is damaged

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