



Technical Data

HiCulture™ Transport Swabs w/ Amies Medium w/ Charcoal MQ651P

Recommended for recovery of aerobic, anaerobic and fastidious bacteria from throat, vaginal and wound specimens.

Directions

Using the capped swab, provided along with the media containing tube, collect the sample to be transported. Discard the cap of the tube and insert the capped swab with the sample till the bottom of the medium. Tighten the cap firmly. The specimen will be preserved during transportation and also the viability of the organisms will be maintained but it will diminish over the time. Some growth of contaminants may occur during longer period of transport. After the transportation, the specimen should be inoculated in proper medium as soon as possible. The cultures on transport swabs must not be kept at room temperature for more than 24 hours.

Principle And Interpretation

Effective recovery of microorganisms and its identification is dependent on a number of factors such as collection and transportation to the laboratory under conditions which allow maintenance of viability. Amies transport medium w/ charcoal is a modification of Stuarts Transport Medium (1,2,3,4). The medium gives improved recovery of *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* due to presence of charcoal in the medium. Charcoal neutralizes the toxic effects of material that may hamper growth of pathogens. Addition of inorganic phosphate buffer and sodium chloride make this medium different from Stuarts transport medium. Calcium and magnesium salts control the permeability of bacterial cells. Presence of sodium thioglycollate and small amounts of agar provide a reduced environment. Sterile cotton swabs allow absorption of specimen material while polypropylene shaft allows semiflexibility to the swab stick, aiding in collection.

Quality Control

Appearance

Sterile Amies medium with charcoal in tubes with sterile cotton swabs.

Colour

Black coloured medium

Quantity of Medium

1.5 ml of medium in tubes

Reaction

7.00- 7.40

Sterility test

Passes release criteria

Cultural response

Viability of following organisms was established for a period of 48 hours. Organisms grew luxuriantly when recovered on Tryptone Soya Agar (M290) and incubated at 35 - 37°C for 18-24 hours.

Organism	Recovery
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853	Luxuriant
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	Luxuriant
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> ATCC 13883	Luxuriant
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> ATCC 13090	Luxuriant

<i>S. serotype Typhi</i> ATCC 6539	Luxuriant
<i>Shigella flexneri</i> ATCC 12022	Luxuriant
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC25922	Luxuriant

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 5 – 25°C with caps firmly screwed. DO NOT FREEZE. Use before expiry date on label.

Reference

1. Amies, C.R. (1967). Can. J. Publ. Health. 58:296.
2. Stuart R.D., 1946, J.Path. Bact., 58:343.
3. Stuart R.D., 1959. Public Health. Report, 74:431.
4. Stuart, R.D., Toshach, S.R and Patsula, T.M. (1954). Can. J. Publ. Health, 45 :75.

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