Page's Saline

M1988

Used as a rinsing solution of membranes in water filtration for Legionella detection.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Sodium chloride(NaCl)	0.120
Magnesium sulphate(MgSO4.7H2O)	0.004
Calcium chloride(CaCl2.2H2O)	0.004
Disodium hydrogen phosphate(Na2HPO4)	0.142
Potassium dihydrogen phosphate(KH2PO4)	0.136

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 0.403 grams(equivalent weight of dehydrated medium per litre) in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat if necessary to dissolve the medium completely. Dispense in tubes or flasks as desired and sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121 ± 3°C) for 15 ± 1 minute.

Principle And Interpretation

Page's saline is recommended for concentration of bacteria, including *Legionella* organisms by membrane filtration for detection and enumeration of *Legionella* (1).This medium is also recommended by ATCC (2). When 1.5% Agar is added to Page's saline it is used for the isolation of *Naegleria* and Acanthamoeba from tissues and soil samples (3).

For sample processing add the membrane used for filtration of water in a sterile flask containing 5-25ml of Page's saline then shake vigorously for atleast 2 minutes. The concentrated solution of organisms is plated directly on Buffered Charcoal Yeast Extract Agar (M813).Alternatively the sample is subjected to heat treatment or acid treatment to reduce non *Legionella* bacteria.As the growth of *Legionella* may be inhibited by overgrowth of other bacterial colonies on the membrane, the method is only suitable for waters containing low bacterial counts.

Quality Control

Appearance
White to cream homogeneous free flowing powder

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium
colourless clear solution without any precipitate

Cultural Response
Satisfactory results are obtained when used as a diluent during bacteriological examination of water.

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.Water quality-Detection and enumeration of *Legionella* - Part 2: Direct membrane filtration method for waters with low bacterial counts.ISO 11731-2:2004(E).
2. ATCC Medium 1323 Page's Amoeba Saline,Page, f.c.1988.A new key to freshwater and soil gymnamoebae. Freshwater Biological Association, Ambleside.
3.Practicals & Viva in Medical Parasiotology by Sehgal-2003.

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