



Technical Data

HiCrome™ Mueller Hinton Agar (For Antifungal testing)

M2067

Intended Use:

Recommended for the chromogenic differentiation of yeasts from clinical samples and determination of susceptibility to antifungal agents.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Acicase ##	14.000
Dextrose	20.000
Chromogenic mixture	1.800
Agar	17.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.3±0.1

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

- Equivalent to Casein acid hydrolysate

Directions

Suspend 52.80 grams in 1000 ml distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE. Cool to 45-50°C. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates. The performance of this batch has been tested and standardized as per the current CLSI (formerly NCCLS) document M44-A2 in Method for Antifungal Disk Diffusion susceptibility Testing of yeasts.

Principle And Interpretation

The Mueller Hinton formulation was originally developed as a simple, transparent agar medium for the cultivation of pathogenic species (1). Mueller Hinton Agar, Modified (as per CLSI for antifungal) is recommended for the diffusion of antifungal agents impregnated on paper disc through an agar gel as described in CLSI Approved Standard (2). When supplemented with glucose to a final concentration of 2%, it provides for suitable fungal growth. Kirby-Bauer et al recommended Mueller Hinton Agar for performing antibiotic susceptibility tests using a single disc of high concentration (4). WHO Committee on Standardization of Susceptibility Testing has accepted Mueller Hinton Agar for determining the susceptibility of microorganisms because of its reproducibility (3). Mueller Hinton Agar with 5% sheep blood and Mueller Hinton Agar with Haemoglobin have been recommended for antimicrobial susceptibility testing of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Haemophilus influenzae*. Similarly Mueller Hinton Agar, Modified (as per CLSI for antifungal) is recommended for antifungal susceptibility testing of discs. Perry and Miller (1) reported that *Candida albicans* produces an enzyme b -N-acetyl- galactosaminidase and according to Rousselle et al (2) incorporation of chromogenic or fluorogenic hexosaminidase substrates into the growth medium helps in identification of *C.albicans* isolates directly on primary isolation.

Acicase provide nitrogenous and carbonaceous compounds, long chain amino acids, sulphur and other essential nutrients. Starch acts as a protective colloid against toxic substances present in the medium. Starch hydrolysis yields dextrose, which serves as a source of energy. Glucose serves as an energy source for fungal cultures. *C.albicans* appear as light green coloured smooth colonies, *C.tropicalis* appear as blue to metallic blue coloured raised colonies. *C.glabrata* colonies appear as cream to white smooth colonies, while *C.krusei* appear as purple fuzzy colonies.

Technique:

Preparation of Inoculum:

1. Inoculum is prepared by picking five distinct colonies of approximately 1mm from 24 hours old culture grown on Sabouraud Dextrose Agar (M063) and incubated at 35 ± 2°C. Colonies are suspended in 5ml of sterile 0.85% Saline.
2. Vortex the resulting suspension and adjust the turbidity to yield 1 x 10⁶ - 5 x 10⁶ cells /ml (i.e. 0.5 McFarland standard).

Test Procedure:

1. Prepare plates with Mueller Hinton Agar, Modified (as per CLSI for antifungal) for carrying out susceptibility of antifungal discs. The medium in the plates should be sterile and have a depth of about 4 mm.
2. Dip a sterile non-toxic cotton swab on a wooden applicator into the standardized inoculum (turbidity so adjusted, as to obtain semi confluent growth on the Petri plate) and rotate the soaked swab firmly against the upper inside wall of the tube to express excess fluid. Streak the entire agar surface of the plate with the swab three times, turning the plate at 60° angle between each streaking. Allow the inoculum to dry for 5 - 15 minutes with lid in place.
3. Apply the discs using aseptic technique. Deposit the discs with centers at least 24 mm apart. (Not more than 12 discs should be placed on a 150-mm plate or not more than 5 discs on a 100-mm plate)
4. Invert the plates and place in an incubator set to $35 \pm 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ within 15 minutes after the discs are applied.
5. Examine each plate after 20 - 24 hours of incubation. If plate was satisfactorily streaked the resulting zones of inhibition will be uniformly circular and there will be a semi-confluent lawn of growth. Read at 48 hours only when insufficient growth is observed after 24 hours incubation.

Type of specimen

Clinical samples : Pure cultures isolated from urine , stool, blood etc.

Specimen Collection and Handling

For clinical samples follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens as per established guidelines (5,6).

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. This medium is recommended for susceptibility testing of pure cultures only.
 2. Inoculum density may effect the zone size. Heavy inoculum may result in smaller zones or too less inoculum may result in bigger zones.
 3. Fastidious organisms may not grow on this medium.
 4. Certain species of *Candida* may show variation in colour intensity depending on the presence of enzyme
- As antimicrobial susceptibility is carried with antibiotic disc, proper storage of the disc is desired which may effect the potency of the disc. Under certain circumstances, the in vitro results of antibiotic susceptibility may not show the same in vivo

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 1.7% Agar gel

Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Yellow to amber coloured opalescent gel forms in Petri plates.

Reaction

Reaction of 5.28% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.3 ± 0.2

pH

7.10-7.50

Cultural Response

Cultural response

A luxuriant growth of test organisms was observed on Mueller Hinton Agar, Modified (as per CLSI for antifungal) in 24-48 hours at 33-37°C along with inhibition zones with respective antibiotic concentrations

Organism	Growth	Colour of colony	Sensitivity testing	
			Fluconazole FLC (25 mcg)	Voriconazole VRC (1 mcg)
<i>Candida albicans</i> ATCC 90028	luxuriant	green	28-39 mm	31-42mm
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i> ATCC 22019	luxuriant	cream	22-33mm	28-37mm
<i>Candida tropicalis</i> ATCC 750	luxuriant	blue	26-37mm	-
<i>Candida krusei</i> ATCC 6258	luxuriant	purple	-	16-25mm

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 2-8°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 (5,6).

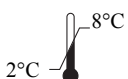
Reference


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Revision : 00 / 2017

IVD In vitro diagnostic
medical device

CE CE Marking

 Storage temperature

 Do not use if package is
damaged

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