

# TM 063 – CHARCOAL AGAR BASE W/ NIACIN

### **INTENDED USE**

For cultivation & isolation of Bordetella pertussis & Haemophilus influenzae.

### PRODUCT SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

The genus Bordetella contains four species: Bordetella pertussis, Bordetella parapertussis, Bordetella bronchiseptica and Bordetella avium. Genetic studies have shown that these organisms are very closely related to each other. Humans are the only host of B.pertussis and B.parapertussis, while B.bronchiseptica is found in a wide variety of animals and occasionally found in humans. B. avium is found in birds. Bordetella species are obligately aerobic and metabolically not very active. They are non-motile except B.bronchiseptica. B.pertussis is the major cause of whooping cough or pertussis. B.parapertussis is associated with a milder form of the disease. Primary isolation of B.pertussis in particular, requires the addition of charcoal, 15-20% blood to neutralize the growth-inhibiting effects. Isolation of this organism requires enrichment medium. Charcoal Agar is prepared according to the method of Mishulow, Sharpe and Cohen. This medium can be used as a replacement for Bordet-Gengou Agar for isolation of B.pertussis and for the production of B.pertussis vaccines. Charcoal Agar supplemented with horse blood can also be used for the cultivation and isolation of Haemophilus influenzae.

The difficulty in the isolation of Bordetella pertussis from nasopharyngeal secretions is the repression of unwanted flora during the long incubation period on nutritious media. Penicillin can be added to the medium as an antimicrobial agent for restricting the other contaminants. However, Penicillin resistant flora still causes the contamination that was observed by Lacey. Necessity of the Nicotinic acid as a growth factor was showed by Proom. Methicillin was found to be superior to Penicillin in suppressing unwanted nasopharyngeal flora as observed by Broome et al. Sutcliffe and Abbott found that Cephalexin was still better than Methicillin. The medium can also be used for the maintenance of stock cultures of Bordetella pertussis on slants with weekly subcultures. Charcoal Agar with Niacin can be converted to Chocolate Agar for isolation of *Haemophilus* species.

### COMPOSITION

Ingredients	Gms / Ltr
Gelatin peptone	10.000
Beef extract	10.000
Sodium chloride	5.000
Starch, soluble	10.000
Nicotinic acid (Niacin)	0.001
Charcoal	4.000
Agar	12.000

# **PRINCIPLE**

Medium ingredients like gelatin peptone and beef extract provide nitrogen and carbon compounds, long chain amino acids and other essential nutrients to the organisms. Sodium chloride maintains osmotic balance. Starch soluble and charcoal neutralizes substances toxic to Bordetella species such as fatty acids. Charcoal has the tendency to settle at the bottom of the flask. Therefore, before dispensing, swirl the flasks gently to obtain a uniform charcoal suspension.

### **INSTRUCTION FOR USE**

- Dissolve 51.0 grams in 900 ml purified / distilled water.
- Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium with frequent stirring.
- Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 psi pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes.











- Cool to 45-50°C and aseptically add sterile 10 % of defibrinated blood and rehydrated contents of one vial of Bordetella Selective Supplement.
- Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.
- For Haemophilus species the medium can be converted to chocolate agar.

### **QUALITY CONTROL SPECIFICATIONS**

**Appearance of Powder** : Grey to greyish black homogeneous free flowing powder.

Appearance of prepared medium : Black coloured, opaque gel with undissolved black particles forms in Petri

plates.

pH (at 25°C) : 7.4±0.2

### INTERPRETATION

Cultural characteristics observed after incubation with added sterile defibrinated blood and Bordetella Selective Supplement.

Microorganism	ATCC	Inoculum (CFU/ml)	Growth	Recovery	Incubation Temperature	Incubation Period
Bordetella bronchiseptica	4617	50-100	Good- luxuriant	>=50%	35-37°C	24-48 Hours
Bordetella parapertussis	15311	50-100	Good- luxuriant	>=50%	35-37°C	24-48 Hours
Bordetella pertussis	8467	50-100	Good- luxuriant	>=50%	35-37°C	24-48 Hours
Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus	25923	>=10 <sup>3</sup>	Inhibited	0%	35-37°C	24-48 Hours
Klebsiella pneumoniae	13883	>=10³	Inhibited	0%	35-37°C	24-48 Hours

### **PACKAGING:**

In pack size of 500 gm bottles.

# **STORAGE**

Dehydrated powder, hygroscopic in nature, store in a dry place, in tightly-sealed containers between 25-30°C and protect from direct sunlight. Under optimal conditions, the medium has a shelf life of 4 years. When the container is opened for the first time, note the time and date on the label space provided on the container. After the desired amount of medium has been taken out replace the cap tightly to protect from hydration.

**Product Deterioration:** Do not use if they show evidence of microbial contamination, discoloration, drying or any other signs of deterioration.

# **DISPOSAL**









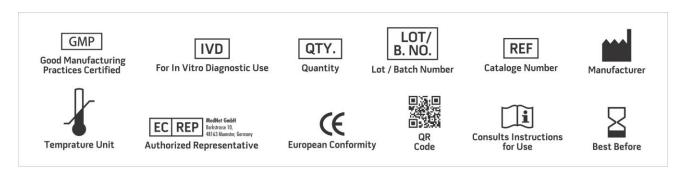




After use, prepared plates, specimen/sample containers and other contaminated materials must be sterilized before discarding.

# **REFERENCES**

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- 5. Mishulow, Sharpe and Cohen, 1953, Am. J. Public Health, 43:1466.
- 6. Murray P. R., Baron J. H., Pfaller M. A., Jorgensen J. H. and YolkenR. H., (Ed.), 2003, Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 8th Ed., American Society for Microbiology, Washington, D.C.
- 7. Regan and Lowe F., 1977, J. Clin. Microbiol., 6:303.
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NOTE: Please consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for information regarding hazards and safe handling Practices. \*For Lab Use Only

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