



Candida Medium

M104

Intended Use:

Recommended for selective isolation and cultivation of *Candida* species.

Composition**

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Mycological peptone	2.500
Dextrose (Glucose)	5.000
Disodium hydrogen phosphate	5.000
Sodium sulphite	5.000
Bismuth sulphite indicator	3.000
Agar	15.000
Final pH (at 25°C)	7.6±0.2

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

Directions

Suspend 35.5 grams in 1000 ml purified / distilled water. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. DO NOT AUTOCLAVE. Cool to 50 - 52°C and aseptically add 0.3 units of Penicillin and 25 µg Streptomycin per ml of sterile medium. Mix well and pour into sterile Petri plates.

Principle And Interpretation

Candida is a genus of yeasts responsible for infections such as oropharyngeal candidiasis, vaginal candidiasis and candidemia. Candida Medium is used for the selective cultivation and differentiation of *Candida species*. Candida Medium was originally developed by Nickerson (1). It is also used for processing and inoculation of specimens like tissues, skin scrapping, nails and hair (2, 3).

Mycological peptone in the medium provides essential nitrogenous nutrients while dextrose acts as carbon source and phosphate maintains buffering action of medium. This medium also contains sodium sulphite, which is reduced by *Candida* species to form sulphide. Bismuth in the medium combines with the sulphide to produce brown to black pigmented colonies and zones of dark precipitate in the medium surrounding the colonies of some species. Bismuth sulphite also acts as an inhibitor of bacterial growth. Selectivity of medium is increased by incorporation of penicillin and streptomycin in the medium, which helps to suppress the growth of many bacteria.

Differentiation of *Candida* is based on the growth patterns and pigmentation of isolated colonies.

Type of specimen

Clinical samples - tissues, skin scrapping, nails and hair (2, 3).

Specimen Collection and Handling:

For clinical samples follow appropriate techniques for handling specimens as per established guidelines (4,5). After use, contaminated materials must be sterilized by autoclaving before discarding.

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 general purpose medium and may not support the growth of fastidious organisms.

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