Veillonella Agar Base

Veillonella Agar Base with added antibiotic is used for selective isolation of *Veillonella* species.

**Composition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Gms / Litre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Casein enzymic hydrolysate</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yeast extract</td>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium thioglycollate</td>
<td>0.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic fuchsin</td>
<td>0.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agar</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final pH ( at 25°C)</td>
<td>7.5±0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters**

**Directions**

Suspend 23.75 grams in 1000 ml distilled water containing 21 ml of 60% sodium lactate. If desired, 1 gm of Tween 80 may be added. Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes. Cool to 50-55°C and aseptically add vancomycin to a final concentration of 7.5 mcg/ml medium.

Caution: Basic fuchsin is a potential carcinogen and care should be taken to avoid inhalation of the powdered dye and contamination of the skin.

**Principle And Interpretation**

*Veillonella* are gram-negative cocci that are the anaerobic counterpart of *Neisseria*. These non-motile diplococci are part of the normal flora of the mouth and have been encountered in patients with oral bite wound, head, neck, and miscellaneous soft tissue infections (1, 2). The most common species isolated from humans is *Veillonella parvula*. *Veillonella* species are negative for the routine biochemical test, employed in bacterial identification with the exception of an occasional strain being positive for catalase. Veillonella Agar was first developed by Rogosa (3) and later modified by Rogosa et al (4). It is used as a selective medium for the isolation of *Veillonella*. *Veillonella* species are isolated from the gastrointestinal tract and oral cavity specimens. Few streptococci and diphtheroids can also grow on this medium.

Casein enzymic hydrolysate and yeast extract provide nitrogenous compounds, vitamin B complex and other growth nutrients. Sodium lactate also serves as a nutritional source. Sodium thioglycollate reduces the Eh potential. Initially streptomycin was added to the medium to suppress the growth of other organisms without hampering the growth of *Veillonella*. However later studies showed that vancomycin is superior to streptomycin as a selective agent (5).

**Quality Control**

**Appearance**
Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

**Gelling**
Firm, comparable with 1.5% Agar gel.

**Colour and Clarity of prepared medium**
Light pink coloured opalescent gel forms in Petri plates.

**Reaction**
Reaction of 2.37% w/v aqueous solution at 25°C. pH : 7.5±0.2
pH 7.30-7.70

**Cultural Response**
M416: Cultural characteristics observed in an anaerobic atmosphere with added 60% v/v Sodium lactate and Vancomycin after an incubation at 35-37°C for 24-48 hours.
Veillonella criceti ATCC 17747    good-luxuriant
Veillonella dispar ATCC 17748    good-luxuriant
Veillonella ratti ATCC 17746    good-luxuriant
Veillonella rodentium ATCC 17743    good-luxuriant

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

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