**Intended Use:**
Recommended for selective isolation of pathogenic Gram positive cocci from clinical and non clinical specimens

**Composition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Gms / Litre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biopeptone</td>
<td>20.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tryptose B #</td>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corn starch</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium chloride</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colistin sulphate</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nalidixic acid</td>
<td>0.015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agar</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep Blood</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Directions**
Either streak, inoculate or surface spread the test inoculum (50-100CFU) aseptically on the plate.

**Principle And Interpretation**

CNA Agar is a nutritionally rich formula containing 5% defibrinated blood, which provides more nutrients and capability of displaying haemolytic reactions. Columbia Blood Agar Base is utilized as a base for preparation of media containing blood and in selective media preparations where various combinations of antimicrobial agents are used as additives. Ellner et al formulated the medium (1) and found that the combination of peptones used gave more rapid and abundant growth of Streptococci, Staphylococci, Neisseria and Haemophilus with better-defined haemolytic reactions. Columbia C.N.A. Agar Base is prepared with the same formula as Columbia Agar Base with the addition of 10 mg/litre of colistin and 15 mg/litre of nalidixic acid to inhibit the growth of gram-negative bacteria and to support the growth of Staphylococci, haemolytic Streptococci and Enterococci when supplemented with 5% blood.

Biopeptone and tryptose B supports luxuriant growth of microorganisms and visualization of good haemolytic reactions. Sheep blood allows detection of haemolytic reactions and supplies X-factor necessary for the growth of many bacterial species. Horse blood supplies X-factor and V-factor, therefore is mostly preferred in most laboratories. Yeast extract and cornstarch serve as energy source and neutralizer respectively.

It should be noted that this medium has relatively high carbohydrate content and, therefore, beta-hemolytic streptococci may produce a greenish hemolytic reaction that may be mistaken for alpha haemolysis. The addition of the antimicrobial agents, colistin (or polymyxin B) and nalidixic acid, renders the medium selective for gram-positive microorganisms (5). Colistin and nalidixic acid disrupt the cell membrane of gram-negative organisms, whereas nalidixic acid blocks DNA replication in susceptible gram-negative bacteria (2).

C.N.A. Agar with addition of blood gives selective isolation of gram-positive cocci, Staphylococci and Streptococci, particularly when gram-negative bacilli are present and tend to overgrow on conventional blood agar plates.

**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 (3,4). 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. Some strains may show poor growth due to nutritional variations.

**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**
Sterile Columbia C.N.A Agar w/5% sheep blood in 90 mm disposable plates.

**Colour**
Red coloured medium

**Quantity of medium**
25ml of medium in disposable plate

**pH**
7.10–7.50

**Sterility Test**
Passes release criteria.

**Cultural Response**
Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 35-37°C for 40-48 hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organism</th>
<th>Inoculum (CFU)</th>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Recovery</th>
<th>Haemolysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Escherichia coli</em> ATCC 25922 (00013*)</td>
<td>$\geq 10^4$</td>
<td>inhibited</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Neisseria meningitidis</em> ATCC $\geq 10^4$</td>
<td></td>
<td>inhibited</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus aureus</em> subsp. aureus ATCC 25923 (00034*)</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>$\geq 50%$</td>
<td>beta/gamma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus epidermidis</em> ATCC 12228 (00036*)</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>$\geq 50%$</td>
<td>gamma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Streptococcus pneumoniae</em> ATCC 6303</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>$\geq 50%$</td>
<td>alpha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Streptococcus pyogenes</em> ATCC 19615</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>luxuriant</td>
<td>$\geq 50%$</td>
<td>beta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key: (*) Corresponding WDCM numbers

**Storage and Shelf Life**
On receipt store between 2-8°C. 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 (3,4).
Reference


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