HiCrome™ Candida Differential Agar

**Recommended for rapid isolation and identification of Candida species from mixed cultures.**

### Composition**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ingredients</th>
<th>Gms / Litre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peptone, special</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yeast extract</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dipotassium hydrogen phosphate</td>
<td>1.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromogenic mixture</td>
<td>7.220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloramphenicol</td>
<td>0.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agar</td>
<td>15.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final pH (at 25°C)</td>
<td>6.3±0.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Formula adjusted, standardized to suit performance parameters

### Directions

HiCrome™ Candida Differential Agar is a ready to use solid media in glass bottle. The medium is pre-sterilized, hence it does not need sterilization. Medium in the bottle can be melted either by using a pre-heated water bath or any other method. Slightly loosen the cap before melting. When complete melting of medium is observed dispense the medium in tubes as butts/slants or in plates as desired and allow to solidify. If on plate, either streak, inoculate or surface spread the test inoculum (50-100 CFU) aseptically.

### Principle And Interpretation

Perry and Miller (3) reported that Candida albicans produces an enzyme b-N-acetyl-galactosaminidase and according to Rousselle et al (4) incorporation of chromogenic or fluorogenic hexosaminidase substrates into the growth medium helps in identification of C.albicans isolates directly on primary isolation. HiCrome™ Candida Differential Agar is a selective and differential medium, which facilitates rapid isolation of yeasts from mixed cultures and allows differentiation of Candida species namely C.albicans, C.krusei, C.tropicalis and C.glabrata on the basis of colouration and colony morphology. On this medium results are obtained within 48 hours and it is useful for the rapid and presumptive identification of common yeasts in Mycology and Clinical Microbiology Laboratory. Peptone special and yeast extract provides nitrogenous, carbonaceous compounds and other essential growth nutrients. Phosphate buffers the medium well. Chloramphenicol suppresses the accompanying bacterial flora. 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.

### Type of specimen

Clinical samples - skin scrapings, urine.

### 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. Variations in colour intensity may be observed for *Candida* isolates depending on the presence of enzymes.
2. Other *Candida* species may produce light mauve coloured colonies which is also produced by other yeast cells. This must be confirmed by further biochemical tests.
3. Other filamentous fungi also exhibit colour on this medium.

**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 HiCrome™ Candida Differential Agar in glass bottle.

**Colour of medium**

Light amber coloured medium

**Quantity of medium**

100ml of medium in glass bottle.

**Reaction**

6.10-6.50

**Sterility Test**

Passes release criteria

**Cultural Response**

Cultural characteristics observed after an incubation at 25-30°C for 40-48 hours.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organism</th>
<th>Inoculum (CFU)</th>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Recovery %</th>
<th>Colour of Colony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Candida albicans ATCC 10231</em></td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>good-luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=50%</td>
<td>light green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Candida glabrata ATCC 15126</em></td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>good-luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=50%</td>
<td>cream to white</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Candida krusei ATCC 24408</em></td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>good-luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=50%</td>
<td>purple, fuzzy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Candida tropicalis ATCC 750</em></td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>good-luxuriant</td>
<td>&gt;=50%</td>
<td>blue to purple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Escherichia coli ATCC 25922</em></td>
<td>&gt;=10⁴</td>
<td>inhibited</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 25923</em></td>
<td>&gt;=10⁴</td>
<td>inhibited</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></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 (1,2).

**References**

In vitro diagnostic medical device

CE Marking

Storage temperature

2°C

Do not use if package is damaged

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Disclaimer:

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