



HiCulture™ Transport Swabs w/ Amies Medium w/o Charcoal

MS684

Recommended for recovery of aerobic, anaerobic and fastidious bacteria from throat, vaginal and wound specimens.

Directions

Using the capped swab, provided along with the media containing tube, collect the sample to be transported. Discard the cap of the tube and insert the capped swab with the sample till the bottom of the medium. Tighten the cap firmly. The specimen will be preserved during transportation and also the viability of the organisms will be maintained but it will diminish over the time. Some growth of contaminants may occur during longer period of transport. After the transportation, the specimen should be inoculated in proper medium as soon as possible. The cultures on transport swabs must not be kept at room temperature for more than 24 hours.

Principle And Interpretation

Transport medium is necessarily and should be non-nutrient, semisolid, reductive medium which hampers the self destructive enzymatic reactions within the cells and also inhibits toxic oxidation effects. Transport Medium, Amies without Charcoal was formulated by Amies (1) by modifying Cary and Blair's medium (2) for transporting microbiological specimens. Amies transport medium is a modification of Stuarts Transport Medium, in which glycerophosphate is replaced by inorganic phosphate buffer. This prevents problem of overgrowth of contaminating organisms while carrying faecal specimens containing *Shigellae* which derive energy from glycerophosphate. Calcium and magnesium salts control the permeability of bacterial cells (1). Presence of sodium thioglycollate and small amounts of agar provide a reduced environment (3). Sterile cotton swabs allow absorption of specimen material while polypropylene shaft allows semiflexibility to the swab stick, aiding in collection.

Quality Control

Appearance

Sterile Amies medium w/o charcoal in tubes with sterile cotton swabs.

Colour

Colourless medium

Quantity of Medium

8ml of medium in tubes

Reaction

7.00- 7.40

Cultural response

Viability of following organisms was established for a period of 48 hours. Organisms grew luxuriantly when recovered on Tryptone Soya Agar (M290) and incubated at 35 - 37°C for 18-24 hours.

Organism	Recovery
<i>Neisseria meningitidis</i> ATCC 13090	Luxuriant
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> ATCC 12228	Luxuriant
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25922	Luxuriant
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> ATCC 19615	Luxuriant

Sterility test

Passes release criteria

Storage and Shelf Life

Store between 5 – 25°C with caps firmly screwed. DO NOT FREEZE. Use before expiry date on label.

Reference

1. Amies, C.R. (1967). Can. J.Publ. Health. 58:296.
2. Cary and Blair, 1964, J. Bact., 88:96
3. Barry, A.L., Fay, G.D., and Sauer, R.L. (1972) Appl. Microbiol 24 (1):31.

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