

## Technical Information

### Cetrimide Agar

#### Product Code: DM 1024H

**Application:-** Cetrimide Agar is a selective medium used for the isolation of pseudomonas aeruginosa from pharmaceutical products in accordance with the microbial limit testing by harmonized methodology of BP.

#### Composition\*\*

Ingredients	Gms / Litre
Pancreatic digest of gelatin	20.000
Magnesium chloride	1.400
Dipotassium sulphate	10.000
Cetrimide	0.300
Agar	13.600
pH after sterilization (at 25°C)	7.2±0.2

\*\* Formula adjusted, standardized to suit parameters

#### Principle & Interpretation

Cetrimide Agar was detailed by King et al<sup>(1)</sup>. This media is based on the composition described in BP<sup>(3)</sup> and is in accordance with the harmonized method of USP/EP/IP/JP<sup>(2,4,5,7)</sup>. It is used as a selective medium for the isolation of pseudomonas aeruginosa from pharmaceutical products. This medium is also used for microbial limit testing for non-sterile products. Lowbury first reported the use of cetrimide as an agent for selective isolation of pseudomonas<sup>(6)</sup>. This medium is also used for determining the ability of an organism to produce fluorescein and pyocyanin. Cetrimide (N-acetyl-N,N,N-trimethylammonium bromide) is added in the medium to inhibit bacteria other than pseudomonas aeruginosa. This is a cationic detergent and acts as a quaternary ammonium compound, which causes nitrogen and phosphorus to be released from bacterial cells except pseudomonas aeruginosa. Magnesium chloride and potassium sulphate present in the medium enhance the production of pigment pyocyanin, which is a blue-green pigment, diffusing in to the medium. This improves detection of pseudomonas on this medium. Presence of magnesium ions can also neutralize EDTA, if present in the sample. Pancreatic digest of gelatin provides the essential nutrients for growth of pseudomonas, while glycerol serves as slow and continuous carbon source for the growing cell. For the isolation of pseudomonas aeruginosa, plates of cetrimide Agar should be inoculated from non-selective medium such as soyabean casein Digest medium (DM1011H). If the count is high the test sample can be directly inoculated onto this medium. Pseudomonas aeruginosa colonies may appear pigmented greenish (under UV light also). Addition of nalidixic acid can aid in inhibiting the growth of accompanying flora.

#### Methodology

Suspend 45.3 grams of powder media in 1000 ml purified/distilled water containing 10 ml glycerol. Shake well & heat to dissolve the medium completely. Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes or as per validated cycle.

#### Quality Control

##### Physical Appearance

Cream to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder

##### Gelling

Firm, comparable with 1.36% Agar gel

##### Colour and Clarity of prepared medium

Light amber coloured opalescent gel with a slight precipitate forms in petri plates

##### pH range

7.00-7.40

##### Growth Promoting Test

Growth promotion is carried out in accordance with the harmonized method of BP. Cultural response was observed after an incubation at 30-35°C for specified time. Recovery rate is considered as 100% for bacteria growth on soyabean casein Digest Agar.

##### Growth promoting properties

Growth of microorganism comparable to that previously obtained with precisely tested and approved lot of medium occurs at the specified temperature for not more than the shortest period of time specified inculcating ≤100cfu (at 30-35°C for ≤18 hours).

### Inhibitory propertied

NO growth of the test microorganism occurs for the specified temp for less than longest period of time specified inoculating  $\geq 100$  cfu (at 30°C for  $\leq 18$  hours).

### Cultural Response/Characteristics

DM 1024H: Cultural characteristics observed after incubation at 30-35°C for 18-72 hours. Recovery rate is considered as 100% for bacteria growth on soyabean casein Digest Agar.

Organism	Inoculum (CFU)	Growth	Observed Lot value (CFU)	Recovery	Incubation temperature	Incubation period
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 9027	50-100	luxuriant	25-100	$\geq 50\%$	30-35°C	$\leq 18$ hrs
<b>Inhibitory</b>						
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 8739	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs
<b>Additional Microbiological testing</b>						
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> ATCC 27853	50-100	luxuriant	25-100	$\geq 50\%$	30-35°C	18-24hrs
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginos</i> ATCC 25668	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	25-100	$\geq 50\%$	30-35°C	18-24hrs
<i>Stenotrophomonas maltophila</i> ATCC 13637	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs
<i>Escherichia coli</i> NCTC 9002	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 6538	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs
<i>Sammonella Typhimurium</i> ATCC 14028	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs
<i>Proteus mirabilis</i> ATCC 29906	$\geq 10^3$	Inhibited	0	0%	30-35°C	$\geq 72$ hrs

## Storage and Shelf Life

**Dried Media:** Store below 30°C in tightly closed container and use before expiry date as mentioned on the label.

**Prepared Media:** 2-8<sup>0</sup> in sealable plastic bags for 2-5 days.

## Further Reading

1. King, Ward and Raney, 1954, J. Lab Clin. Med., 44: 301.
2. The United States Pharmacopoeia, 2011, The United States Pharmacopoeial Convention. Rockville, MD.
3. British Pharmacopoeia 2011, The Stationery Office British Pharmacopoeia
4. European Pharmacopoeia 2011, European Dept. for the quality of Medicines,
5. Japanese pharmacopoeia, 2008
6. Lowbury E.J.L., 1951, J. Clin Path., 4:66.
7. Indian Pharmacopoeia, 2010 Ministry of Health and family Welfare, Govt. of India

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