

for *in vitro* diagnostic use

Application

The reference strains from SSI Diagnostica are intended to be used for research or as negative/positive controls for serotyping of antigens.

Description

The reference strains are grown in serum broth overnight, and then the group or type is verified by SSI Diagnostica specific antisera. Each ampoule contains 1 mL freeze-dried bacterial culture.

Material Required but not Provided

Biological safety cabinet
Gloves
Gauze
70% ethanol
Sharp file
Sterile Pasteur pipettes
Todd Hewitt broth
5% blood agar plate
5% CO₂ incubator 35-37 °C

Procedure

Work in a biological safety cabinet and wear gloves. All waste should be handled as infectious material.

The best growth condition for *Streptococcus* is in a 5% CO₂ incubator 35-37 °C.

Opening of Ampoules

- Scratch with a sharp file where the narrow part of the ampoule starts.
- Wet a piece of gauze with 70% ethanol and disinfect the ampoule.
- Wrap the gauze around the ampoule and break the glass at the scratched area. Be careful as this might leave sharp glass edges.
- Discard the top of the ampoule as infectious waste.
- Revive the freeze-dried material immediately after opening as described below.

Reviving the Strain

- Aseptically add 1 mL Todd Hewitt broth with a sterile pipette to the freeze-dried material in the ampoule and mix well.
- Transfer the entire suspension to 5 mL serum broth.
- Incubate the ampoule overnight at 35-37 °C in a 5% CO₂ incubator.
- Transfer one drop of suspension to a blood agar plate and spread.
- Incubate the agar plate for 18-24 hours at 35-37 °C in a 5% CO₂ incubator.
- Inspect the agar plate for growth of pure culture and serotype the isolate.
- Subsequent subcultures can be made from the agar plate.

Caution

All freeze-dried strains and cultures must be regarded as potentially pathogenic, and must be handled by persons trained in microbiological techniques. The working facilities should be classified according to biosafety level 2.

Storage and Shelf Life

Intact ampoules can be stored for numerous years at room temperature. Once the ampoule has been opened the freeze-dried bacteria cannot be stored, but must be revived immediately.

Information and ordering

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