

## Cetrimide agar

REF.	Pack size
1403 001	100 gm
1403 002	500 gm

### Intended Use

Cetrimide Agar is used in the isolation and identification of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* from clinical specimens such as pus, sputum and others.

### Background

*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* produces a number of water-soluble pigments, including the yellow-green or yellow-brown fluorescent pigment pyoverdine (fluorescein). When pyoverdine combines with the blue water-soluble pigment pyocyanin, the bright green color characteristic of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* is created. Agar containing Cetrimide has been used successfully to isolate *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* from contaminated specimens.

### Principle

Pancreatic Digest of Gelatin provides the nitrogen, vitamins, and carbon in Cetrimide Agar. Magnesium Chloride and Potassium Sulfate enhance the production of pyocyanin and fluorescein. Cetrimide (cetyltrimethylammonium bromide) is the selective agent. Cetrimide acts as a quaternary ammonium cationic detergent causing nitrogen and phosphorous to be released from bacterial cells other than *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

Components	gm/Liter
Pancreatic digest of gelatin	20.0
Cetrimide	0.3
Magnesium chloride	1.4
Dipotassium sulphate	10.0
Agar	13.6

Final pH (at 25°C) 7.2 ± 0.2

### Preparation, Storage and Stability

Store the dehydrated medium at 10-30°C and use before the expiry date on the label. Store the prepared medium at 2-8°C. After the desired amount of medium is taken out, replace the cap tightly to protect from hydration.

### Procedure

1. Suspend 45.3 g of the powder in 1 L distilled water containing 10 ml glycerol and mix well.
2. Boil with frequent agitation to dissolve the powder completely.
3. Sterilize by autoclaving at 121°C for 15 minutes.

### SYMBOLS IN PRODUCT LABELLING

EC REP	Authorized Representative	Temperature Limitation
IVD	For in-vitro diagnostic use	Use by/Expiration Date
LOT	Batch Code/Lot number	CAUTION. Consult instructions for use
REF	Catalogue Number	Manufactured by
	Consult instructions for use	

### Quality Control

#### Appearance

1-Dehydrated Appearance : light yellow coloured, homogeneous, free flowing powder.

2- Prepared Appearance : Prepared medium is light to moderately hazy and grey-white with precipitate.

3- Cultural Response : Cultural characteristics after 24-48 hours at 30-35°C (As per pharmacopeia or 35± 2°C for clinical specimens)

Organisms (ATCC)	Growth	Colour of the Colony
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	inhibited	-
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	Good	green-yellow to blue-green
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	inhibited	-

### Interpretation of the results

Examine plates or tubes for the presence of characteristic blue, blue-green, or yellow-green pigment. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* typically produces both pyocyanin and fluorescein.

### Precautions

1. Occasionally some enterics will exhibit a slight yellowing of the medium; however, this coloration is easily distinguished from fluorescein production because this yellowing does not fluoresce.
2. Some nonfermenters and some aerobic spore formers may exhibit a water-soluble tan to brown pigmentation on this medium. *Serratia* strains may exhibit a pink pigmentation.

### Bibliography

1. King, E. O., M. K. Ward, and E. E. Raney. 1954. Two simple media for the demonstration of pyocyanin and fluorescein. J. Lab. Clin. Med. 44:301.
2. Association of Official Analytical Chemists. 1995. Bacteriological analytical manual, 8th ed. AOAC International, Gaithersburg, MD.
3. United States Pharmacopeial Convention. 1995. The United States pharmacopeia, 23rd ed. The United States Pharmacopeial Convention, Rockville, MD.

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