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Amies transport medium without charcoal

Transport Medium, Amies without Charcoal is used for transport and preservation of microbiological specimen.

REF: BS.1/AC01.100.0100	100 Gram	REF: BS.1/AC01.250.0250	250 Gram
REF: BS.1/AC01.500.0500	500 Gram		

CLINICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Transport Medium is necessarily and should be a non-nutrient, semisolid, reductive medium which hampers the self-destructive enzymatic reactions within the cells and also inhibits toxic oxidation effects. Transport Medium was primarily developed by Moffett et al (1) and Stuart et al (2) for carrying gonococcal specimens. However Cary and Blair (3) observed the problem of overgrowth of contaminating organisms while carrying faecal specimens containing Shigellae. It was seen that the contaminants derive their energy from the glycerophosphate and therefore a buffer having inorganic salts was a better replacement for glycerophosphate.

METHOD PRINCIPLE

Amies (4) modified Stuart's Transport Medium (2, 5, 6) by replacing glycerophosphate with an inorganic phosphate buffer, provides a reduced environment due to the presence of sodium thioglycollate and small amount of agar. Amies Medium is devoid of methylene blue. Calcium, magnesium, potassium and sodium salts help the survival of gonococcal cells by restricting their permeability Phosphates buffer the medium. For the collection of the specimen, use sterile cotton tipped swabs on wooden sticks. Push the swabs down to one third of the medium depth and cut the stick, so that when the cap is screwed down, the swab is forced to the bottom of the medium. Tighten the cap firmly on the bottle. 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 also 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.

MEDIA COMPOSITION

Item	Formula per liter of medium
- Sodium chloride	3.000 gm.
- Potassium chloride	0.200 gm.
- Calcium chloride	0.100 gm.
- Magnesium chloride	0.100 gm.
- Monopotassium phosphate	0.200 gm.
- Disodium phosphate	1.150 gm.
- Sodium thioglycollate	1.000 gm.
- Agar	4.000 gm.

PRECAUTIONS AND WARNINGS

Media to be handled by entitled and professionally educated person. Do not ingest or inhale.

Good Laboratories practices using appropriate precautions should be followed in:

- Wearing personnel protective equipment (overall, gloves, glasses,).
- Do not pipette by mouth.
- In case of contact with eyes or skin; rinse immediately with plenty of soap and water. In case of severe injuries; seek medical advice immediately.
- Respect country requirement for waste disposal.

S56: dispose of this material and its container at hazardous or special waste collection point.
S57: use appropriate container to avoid environmental Contamination.
S61: avoid release in environment.

For further information, refer to the Amies transport medium without charcoal material safety data sheet.

STORAGE AND STABILITY

BioScien Amies transport medium without charcoal dehydrated media are stable until expiration date stated on label when properly stored 10-30°C. The prepared medium should be stored at 2-8°C. Use before expiry date on the label. On opening, product should be properly stored dry, after tightly capping the bottle in order to avoid lump development due to the hygroscopic nature of the product. Improper storage of the product may lead to lump formation. Store in a dry ventilated area protected from extremes of temperature and sources of ignition. Seal the container tightly after use. Product performance is best if used within stated expiry period.

Final pH 7.3 ± 0.2 at 25°C

MEDIA PREPARATION

- Suspend 9.75 grams in 1000 ml distilled water.
- Adjust pH to *7.3 ± 0.2 at 25°C*
- Heat to boiling to dissolve the medium completely.
- Dispense in screw cap bottles or tubes in 6 ml or desired quantity.
- Sterilize by autoclaving at 15 lbs. pressure (121°C) for 15 minutes.
- Cool in an upright position. Turn the tubes several times while agar is solidifying, to maintain uniform suspension of charcoal particles.

Deterioration

The color of ***BioScien*** Amies transport medium without charcoal is Off-white to yellow homogeneous free flowing powder. If there are any physical changes, discard the medium.
The hydrated medium Colorless clear to slightly opalescent gel forms in tubes as butts, media should not be used if there are any signs of deterioration (shrinking, cracking, or discoloration), and contaminations.

SPECIMEN COLLECTION AND PRESERVATION

Clinical samples

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED NOT PROVIDED

- Sterile cups
- Sterile test tubes
- Sterile loops
- Incubator

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Performance of the medium is expected when used as per the direction on the label within the expiry period when stored at recommended temperature

Cultural characteristics observed when subcultured on Soyabean Casein Digest Agar after an incubation at 35-37°C for 18-24 hours.

Test Organisms	Growth
Neisseria meningitidis ATCC 13090	Luxuriant
Staphylococcus aureus ATCC 25923	Luxuriant
Staphylococcus epidermidis ATCC 12228	Luxuriant
Streptococcus pyogenes ATCC 19615	Luxuriant

QUALITY CONTROL

To ensure adequate quality control, it is recommended that positive and negative control included in each run. If control values are found outside the defined range, check the system performance. If control still out of range please contact ***BioScien*** technical support.

REFERENCES

1. Moffett, Young and Stuart, 1948, Brit. Med. J., 2:241.
2. Stuart R. D., Toshach S. R. and Patsula T. M., 1954, Can. J. Pub. Hlth., 45:75.
3. Cary and Blair, 1964, J. Bacteriol., 88:96.
4. Amies C. R., 1967, Can. J. Public Health, 58:296
5. Stuart R. D., 1946, J. Path. Bact., 58:343.
6. Stuart R. D., 1959, Pub. Hlth. Rep., 74: 431.

SYMBOLS IN PRODUCT LABELLING	
IVD For in-vitro diagnostic use	Number of <n> test in the pack
LOT Batch Code/Lot number	Caution
REF Catalogue Number	Do not use if package is damaged
Temperature Limitation	Consult Instruction for use
Expiration Date	
Manufactured by	