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Mannitol Salt Agar

DM160. A selective medium for the isolation of pathogenic staphylococci.

Contents: See pack label.

Formulation*

Material:	Concentration in medium:
Peptone	8.0 g/litre
Yeast extract	2.0 g/litre
Lactalbumin	3.0 g/litre
Sodium chloride	30.0 g/litre
Mannitol	10.0 g/litre
Phenol red	0.0225 g/litre
Lithium chloride	7.0 g/litre
Glycine	1.0 g/litre
Sodium pyruvate	3.0 g/litre
Agar	12.0 g/litre
Final pH: 7.4 ± 0.2	

Storage and shelf life

All dehydrated culture media containers should be kept tightly closed and stored in a dry place at 10 to 25°C until the expiry date shown on the pack label.

Precautions

For *in vitro* diagnostic use only. Observe approved hazard precautions and aseptic techniques. To be used only by adequately trained and qualified laboratory personnel. Sterilise all biohazard waste before disposal. Refer to Product Safety Data sheet (available on request or via MAST website).

Materials required but not provided

Standard microbiological supplies and equipment such as loops, MAST selective supplements, swabs, applicator sticks, incinerators and incubators, etc., as well as serological and biochemical reagents and additives such as blood.

Procedure

1. Refer to pack label for quantities and volumes required. Prepare MAST Mannitol Salt Agar (DM160) by suspending the powder in distilled or deionised water. For sachet packs, dissolve the entire contents of the sachet in the volume shown on the label.
2. Autoclave at 121°C (15 p.s.i.) for 15 minutes.
3. Cool to 50°C to 55°C, pour culture plates (15 to 20 ml per plate) and allow to set.
4. If required the medium can be made selective for methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) by the addition of MAST selective supplements: MS29 Series (Oxacillin) MRSA SELECTATAB™ (Oxacillin) or SV29 Series MRSA SELECTAVIAL™.

5. Prepared culture plates may be used immediately or stored in plastic bags at 2 to 8°C for up to one week before use.
6. Inoculate plates by surface plating, streaking out for single colonies.
7. Incubate plates aerobically for 24 to 48 hours at 35 to 37°C.

Interpretation of results

After incubation record growth of organisms. Typical characteristics to note include: colony size, morphology and pigmentation and effect on surrounding medium.

Quality control

Check for signs of deterioration. Quality control must be performed with at least one organism to demonstrate expected performance. Do not use the product if the result with the control organism is incorrect. The list below illustrates a range of performance control strains which the end user can easily obtain.

Test Organisms	Result
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC® 25922	No growth
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC® 25923	Yellow colony Yellow halo
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC® 33591 (MRSA)	Yellow colony Yellow halo
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i> ATCC® 14990	Pink/red Colony

References

Bibliography available on request.