

For isolation and differentiation of Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) including low level MRSA

Colorex™



Plate Reading

- Methicillin Resistant
 Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA)
 → rose to mauve
- Methicillin Susceptible Staphylococcus aureus (MSSA) → inhibited
- Other bacteria
- → blue, colourless or inhibited



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Background

Leading cause of nosocomial infections, especially in intensive care units, the MRSA sources are either endogenous (the patient) or through cross contamination (environmental or by person to person contact).

The major issue with this pathogen is its resistance to a large panel of antibiotics, among them beta-lactam antibiotics, limiting the therapeutic options for clinicians.

Early detection is essential for controlling the spread of MRSA, providing appropriate care, and avoiding complex and expensive treatments. Pre-admission screening for MRSA has proved to be an effective method for reducing the hospital burden of MRSA-colonised patients. The savings due to consistent decolonisation before elective admission outweigh the costs of screening. Today, in the US, the extra-expenses linked to difficult treatments of MRSA infections are estimated at \$2.4 billion for about 370,000 hospital stays. (Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology News, August 2009).

In the UK, the estimation of the additional cost of discharging every hospital patient who acquires MRSA is £9,000.

Medium Performance

1 ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE

ColorexTM MRSA, introduced in 2002, was the <u>firs</u> chromogenic medium for MRSA detection. It lead to such signi cant reductions in both, the response time and laboratory workload, that it allowed an absolutely necessary wide-scale patient screening.

EFFICIENT

The medium exhibits sensitivity and specificity values close to 100 %. Colorex™ MRSA allows an accurate detection of MRSA with a higher level of sensitivity than oxacillin containing media.

FAST & EASY INTERPRETATION

(3) Intense mauve colony colour in 18-24 h.

Medium Description

Powder Base	Total 82.5 g/L Agar 15.0 Peptones and yeast extract 40.0 Salts 25.0 Chromogenic mix 2.5 Storage at 15/30 °C - pH: 6.9 +/-0.2 Shelf Life 2 years
Supplement (included in the pack)	Powder form QSF 20 L

Usual Samples	nasal, perineal, throat, rectal specimens
Procedure	Direct Streaking. Incubation 18-24 h at 37 °C. Aerobic conditions

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