

For detection of Van A/Van B VRE. faecalis & VRE. faecium

Colorex™

Colorex[™] VRE

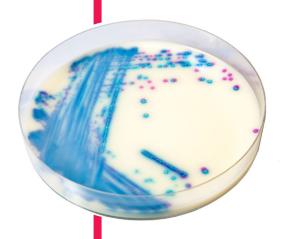
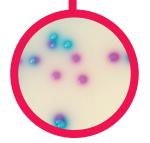


Plate Reading

- VRE. faecalis/VRE. faecium
 → pink to mauve
- E. gallinarum/E. casseliflavus
 → blue or inhibited
- Other bacteria
- → inhibited



For detection of Van A/Van B VRE, faecalis & VRE, faecium

Background

There are two types of vancomycin resistance in *Enterococci*. The first type is intrinsic resistance (mostly Van C type but also Van D, Van E, Van F etc) found in *E. gallinarum* and *E. casseliflavus/E. flavescens* and demonstrates a low-level resistance to vancomycin. The second type of vancomycin resistance in *enterococci* is acquired resistance (Van A & Van B types), mostly seen in *E. faecium* and *E. aecalis*. Therefore, to avoid the spread of this resistance to more virulent pathogens (*S. aureus*, for instance) it is crucial to promptly detect the presence of any of these two species in the patient, and accurately differentiate them from other *Enterococci*.

"Knowledge of the type of resistance is critical for infection control purposes. Van A and Van B genes are transferable and can spread from organism to organism. In contrast, Van C genes are not transferable, have been associated less commonly with serious infections, and have not been associated with outbreaks" – from CDC guidelines

Vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus* (VRE) infections are especially aggressive and have been associated with mortality rates approaching 60 % to 70 %.

Medium Performance

1 SIMPLE, FAST AND RELIABLE TOOL

for the direct detection of VRE strains with transmissible resistance: this is a precious help in the implementation of the appropriate control measures to prevent the spread of VRE.

(2) INTENSE COLONY COLOURS

In Colorex[™] VRE media, VR*E. faecalis* and VR*E. faecium* strains are easily distinguishable by the colony colour.

In the contrary, in the Classical agar for the detection of VRE (Bile Esculine Agar supplemented with vancomycin): (I) there is no differenciation between *E. faecalis/E. faecium* and the other *Enterococci*; (II) it often leads to false positives of other esculine hydrolising bacteria (like *Lactococcus*, *Pediococcus*...); (III) the black "cloud" makes plate reading difficult as well as the choice of the proper colony for further confirmatory tests.

(3) FLEXIBILITY

Colorex™ VRE is supplied with a shelf-life of about 2 years. This allows for flexibility of use, whether in an epidemic situation with many patients to screen, or whether for random surveillance of cultures.

Medium Description

| Powder Base | Total 67.3 g/L Agar 15.0 Peptones & Yeast extract 20.0 Salts 5.0 Chromogenic mix 27.3 Storage at 15/30 °C - pH: 6.9 ± 0.2 Shelf Life 2 years |
|------------------------|--|
| Supplement | Powder form 60 mg/L |
| (Included in the pack) | Storage at 2/8 °C Shelf Life 2 years |

| Usual Samples | stools |
|---------------|--|
| Procedure | Direct Streaking. Incubation at 37 °C, 24 h. Aerobic conditions. |



