

# COLUMBIA CNA AGAR w/ 5% SHEEP BLOOD

## INTENDED USE

Remel Columbia CNA Agar w/ 5% Sheep Blood is a solid medium recommended for use in qualitative procedures for selective isolation of gram-positive cocci.

## SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION

Columbia Agar Base was first described by Ellner, Stoessel, Drakeford, and Vasi in 1966 as an improved blood agar base.<sup>1</sup> It was found to be capable of growing fastidious and nonfastidious organisms from clinical specimens. Ellner et al. incorporated colistin and nalidixic acid in the base to produce a selective medium for isolating gram-positive organisms (e.g., streptococci, staphylococci) from specimens containing mixed flora.<sup>2</sup>

## PRINCIPLE

Peptones in this medium provide essential growth factors such as nitrogen, carbon, vitamins, and trace elements necessary for bacterial growth. Beef extract and corn starch serve as energy sources and yeast extract supplies B-complex vitamins. Sheep blood provides the X factor (hemin) necessary for the growth of many bacteria and enables the demonstration of hemolytic activity. Colistin and nalidixic acid are selective agents which inhibit the growth of most gram-negative bacilli.

## REAGENTS (CLASSICAL FORMULA)\*

|                      |        |                           |           |
|----------------------|--------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Casein Peptone.....  | 12.0 g | Corn Starch .....         | 1.0 g     |
| Meat Peptone.....    | 5.0 g  | Colistin.....             | 10.0 mg   |
| Sodium Chloride..... | 5.0 g  | Nalidixic Acid .....      | 10.0 mg   |
| Beef Extract.....    | 3.0 g  | Sheep Blood .....         | 5 %       |
| Yeast Extract.....   | 3.0 g  | Agar .....                | 13.5 g    |
|                      |        | Demineralized Water ..... | 1000.0 ml |

pH 7.3 ± 0.2 @ 25°C

\*Adjusted as required to meet performance standards.

## PROCEDURE

1. Inoculate and streak the specimen as soon as possible after it is received in the laboratory.
2. If material is being cultured directly from a swab, roll the swab over a small area of the agar surface and streak for isolation.
3. Incubate in ambient air or in 5-10% CO<sub>2</sub> at 33-37°C for 18-24 hours.
4. Examine plate for typical colony morphology and hemolytic reactions.

## QUALITY CONTROL

All lot numbers of Columbia CNA Agar w/ 5% Sheep Blood have been tested using the following quality control organisms and have been found to be acceptable. This quality control testing meets or exceeds CLSI standards.<sup>3</sup> Testing of control organisms should be performed in accordance with established laboratory quality control procedures. If aberrant quality control results are noted, patient results should not be reported.

## CONTROL

*Enterococcus faecalis* ATCC® 29212  
\**Staphylococcus aureus* ATCC® 25923  
\**Streptococcus pneumoniae* ATCC® 6305  
\**Streptococcus pyogenes* ATCC® 19615  
*Escherichia coli* ATCC® 25922  
\**Proteus mirabilis* ATCC® 12453  
*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* ATCC® 27853

\*CLSI recommended organism

## INCUBATION

CO<sub>2</sub>, 18-24 h @ 33-37°C  
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## RESULTS

Growth  
Growth  
Growth, alpha hemolysis  
Growth, beta hemolysis  
Inhibition (partial to complete)  
Inhibition (partial to complete)  
Inhibition (partial to complete)

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Ellner, P.D., C.I. Stoessel, E. Drakeford, and F. Vasi. 1966. Am. J. Clin. Pathol. 45:502.
2. Murray, P.R., E.J. Baron, J.H. Jorgensen, M.L. Landry, and M.A. Pfaller. 2007. Manual of Clinical Microbiology. 9<sup>th</sup> ed. ASM Press, Washington, D.C.
3. Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI). 2004. Quality Control for Commercially Prepared Microbiological Culture Media; Approved Standard, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. M22-A3. CLSI, Wayne, PA.

Refer to the front of Remel *Technical Manual of Microbiological Media* for **General Information** regarding precautions, product storage and deterioration, specimen collection, storage and transportation, materials required, quality control, and limitations.

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