### TYPES OF CULTURE MEDIA MATHHAR AHMAD ABU MORAD MD DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY AND IMMUNOLOGY FACULTY OF MEDICINE, MU'TAH UNIVERSITY LAB 4



## Purpose

To become familiar with the selective and differential media used to identify the infections associated bacteria

# Principle

• Bacteria and other microbes have particular requirements for growth. Therefore, in order to

successfully grow the bacteria in lab so that we can stain and identify them, we must provide

an environment that is suitable for growth.

- Growth media are used to cultivate bacteria because it contains essential:
  - ✓ Necessary nutrients
  - ✓ Moisture
  - ✓ pH to support microbial growth

### **Streaking Microbial Cultures on Agar Plates**

Agar plate streaking are an essential tool in microbiology. They allow bacteria and fungi to grow on a semi-solid surface to produce discrete colonies. These colonies can be used to help identify the organism

### **Quadrant Streak**



### **Plate streaking technique**

Streaking Microbial Cultures on Agar Plates

# Plate streaking technique







### **Overview of bacterial infections**

### Bacterial meningitis -

- Streptococcus pneumoniae
- Neisseria meningitidis
- Haemophilus influenzae
- Streptococcus agalactiae
- Listeria monocytogenes

#### Otitis media

- Streptococcus pneumoniae

### Pneumonia

Community-acquired:

- Streptococcus pneumoniae
- Haemophilus influenzae
- Staphylococcus aureus Atypical:
- Mycoplasma pneumoniae
- Chlamydia pneumoniae
- Legionella pneumophila

Tuberculosis

 Mycobacterium tuberculosis

#### Skin infections

- Staphylococcus aureus
- Streptococcus pyogenes
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa

### Sexually transmitted diseases

- Chlamydia trachomatis
- Neisseria gonorrhoeae
- Treponema pallidum
- Ureaplasma urealyticum
- Haemophilus ducreyi

### Eye infections

- Staphylococcus aureus
- Neisseria gonorrhoeae
- Chlamydia trachomatis

### Sinusitis

- Streptococcus pneumoniae
- Haemophilus influenzae

### Upper respiratory tract infection

- Streptococcus pyogenes
- Haemophilus influenzae

#### Gastritis

- Helicobacter pylori

### Food poisoning

- Campylobacter jejuni
- Salmonella
- Shigella
- Clostridium
- Staphylococcus
- aureus
- Escherichia coli

### - Urinary tract infections

- Escherichia coli
- Other Enterobacteriaceae
- Staphylococcus saprophyticus
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa



BASIC MEDIA

- Simple media
- Support growth of microorganisms
- No special nutritional requirements

### Examples:

Nutrient agar Nutrient broth



Nutrient agar



**Nutrient broth** 



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MacConkey agar is a selective and differential media for Enterobacteriaceae



### MacConkey agar





# Blood agar (BA)

Enriched medium: containing peptones, yeast extracts, liver or heart extracts (depending on the medium), and blood.



Some bacteria produce an enzyme called hemolysin that is able to lyse RBCs (hemolysis)

### Differential medium: containing blood

If hemolysin is produced by the bacteria it will be secreted into the medium and the RBCs will be lysed

Growth on BA differentiates between the three groups of Bacteria:

- 1- Alpha hemolytic bacteria
- 2- Gamma hemolytic bacteria
- 3- Beta hemolytic bacteria

### **Beta hemolysis = Complete hemolysis**





# Alpha hemolysis





Incomplete (partial) lysis of RBCs

### Gamma hemolysis No hemolysis, and no change in the medium







The three types of hemolysis

### The hemolytic pattern of different Streptococci



# Mannitol salt agar

### Selective and Differential for Staphylococci



- Selective agent: 7.5% NaCl
- **Differential agent:** mannitol to differentiate between mannitol Fermenters and non-fermenters
- pH indicator: Phenol red

### Mannitol salt agar





**B**lood agar

Beta hemolytic Staphylococci

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# Salmonella -Shigella agar (SS agar)

### Purpose

For isolation and differentiation of Salmonella & Shigella

### Components

 the presence of brilliant green, sodium citrate and bile salts which completely inhibit the growth of Gram-positive bacteria and partially inhibit the growth of Enterobacteriaceae and Proteus.

### ✓ Lactose: carbon source

✓ Neutral red: pH indicator, red in acidic conditions

### Salmonella Shigella agar (SS agar)

Why black colonies? 🔨

Due to the production of FeS (ferrous sulfide forming black precipitate presented by black-centered colonies)

SS agar ↓ - Sodium thiosulfate (Na₂S₂O₃): sulfur source - Fe<sup>3+</sup> (ferric) H2S indicator



 $Na_2S_2O_3 + thiosulfate reductase \longrightarrow sulfite + H_2S$ H\_2S + Fe+3  $\longrightarrow$  FeS (black precipitate presented by black-centered colonies)

### Salmonella Shigella agar (SS agar)

Results

Lactose fermenters: pink to red colonies (few can grow) Non lactose fermenters: translucent, colorless colonies with or without black centers

Shigella: colorless colonies without black centers



Lactose fermenter flora: pink to red colonies



Salmonella: colorless colonies with black centers



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# Cholera identification

Identification

- ✓ Thiosulfate citrate bile salt sucrose agar or TCBS agar
- ✓ The medium is alkaline which enhances the growth of Vibrio species

### Important components

- ✓ Sucrose: sugar source
- ✓ Bromothymol blue: pH indicator
  - pH<6.0 yellow
  - pH>7.6 -blue



# Cholera identification

### Results

*Vibrio cholera*: Ferment sucrose smooth yellow colonies *Vibrio parahemolyticus*: non-sucrose fermenter, green colonies



TCBS mediaV. choleraV. parahemolyticus

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### Löwenstein–Jensen (LJ) medium

• Is a growth medium specially used for culture of *Mycobacterium*, notably *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.



### Löwenstein–Jensen (LJ) medium

**Penicillin** and **Nalidixic acid** (FD053) along with **malachite green** prevents growth of the majority of contaminants surviving decontamination of the specimen while encouraging earliest possible growth of Mycobacteria

Composition	Ingredients Gms / 600 ml
L-Asparagine	3.600
Monopotassium phosphate	2.400
Magnesium sulphate	0.240
Magnesium citrate	0.600
Potato starch, soluble	30.000
Malachite green	0.40

Cultivation of Anaerobic Bacteria – Thioglycollate medium

**Thioglycolate** is a multipurpose, enriched, differential medium used primarily to determine the oxygen requirements of microorganisms. It acts as an enrichment broth which is most frequently used in diagnostic bacteriology. This broth supports the growth of anaerobes, aerobes, fucultative anaerobes microaerophilic, and aerotolerant microorganisms.



# Anaerobic jars





Anaerobic candle jar

# Löffler's medium

Is a special substance used to grow *Corynebacterium diphtheriae* bacilli to confirm the diagnosis.







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### **Chocolate agar**

- Used to isolate *Haemophilus influenzae*
- Is a hemolysed blood either by heating blood to 80°C or using enzyme treatment
- Treatment result in browning of the medium, therefore, it is called chocolate agar.





**Chocolate agar** 

### Haemophilus influenzae growth on Chocolate

agar

