



Tikrit University
College of Veterinary Medicine

Lect.2: Microbiology

Subject name: **Culture media**

Subject year: Third-year

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Lecturers link
SCAN ME

Culture media

A culture medium (*media*, plural):- is nutrient material prepared in the laboratory for the growth of bacteria, molds, and other microorganisms.

Agar:- is a complex polysaccharide derived from seaweed (red algae). The melting point is 97-100 °C and solidify at 42 °C. Usually agar is used in 1.5-2% (final concentration) to solidify the liquid medium. 0.5-1% to make the medium semisolid. 5% to decrease bacterial motility(prevents swarming, *proteus*). Gelatin medium (12-15%) is solid at 4 °C and Liquid at 25 °C.

Advantage of culture media are:-

- 1-For pure culture isolation.
- 2-For storage of stock cultures.
- 3-To observe specific biochemical reactions.
- 4-As transport media to preserve bacteria during transportation to the laboratory.
- 5-For preparation of antigens (vaccines and diagnostic kits).

Types of culture media:-

A- According to physical consistencies:

- 1- Liquid media.
- 2- Solid media.
- 3- Semi solid media.

B- According to the purpose of application:-

1- **Simple media:-** Contains the essential nutrients as source of nitrogen and carbon such as:

Peptone water, nutrient agar. , Nutrient broth

2- **Differential media:-**are media that contain substances that cause some bacteria to take on a different appearance from other species, allowing one to differentiate one species from another, e.g.

a- **MacConkey agar:-** Differentiate between lactose fermenting and non-lactose fermenting bacteria.

b- **Blood agar:-** Differentiate between hemolytic and non-hemolytic bacteria.

3- Selective media:- are media that contains inhibiting materials for growth of some bacteria and at the same time it is activating for some other types, such as

a- bismoth sulphate agar:-used to isolate *Salmonella* .it contains bismuth sulphate which works as indicator, and also contain Brilliant green material which is used as inhibiting factor to other bacteria .

b- manitol salt agar:- used to isolate *Staphylococcus*, it contains high concentration of NaCl as inhibitor and manitol sugar which works as differential agent between staph. fermenting (yellow) and non-fermenting staph. (reddish)

c. Salmonella Shigella agar:-used to grow in Salmonella and Shigella, it contains bile salt and brilliant green agar are working as inhibitor and also it contains neutral red and thiosulphate to produce H₂S gas .

4- Enriched media:- are media that used to grow most types of bacteria, it contains organic compounds, vitamins, salts and yeast, such as

- a. blood agar
- b.chocolate agar (heated blood agar)
- c. brain heart infusion agar
- d. serum agar
- e. extract animal tissue.

5- Transport media:- Simple media used for transport samples from different regions to the lab. e.g. Stuart transport medium

The names some of the Labroatory Culture media

- 1- Nutrient agar (simple, solid)
- Nutrient broth (simple, liquid) - 2
- Peptone water (simple, liquid) - 3
- 4-Gelatin medium (semi solid)
- MacConkey agar (selective and differential) - 5
- 6-Mannitol salt agar (selective and differential) for isolation of *staphyl*
- 7-Eosin Methylene blue agar (selective and differential) for isolation of *E. coli*.
- 8- Blood agar (enriched and differential)
- 9- Brain heart infusion agar (enriched, solid)
- 10- Brain heart infusion broth (enriched, liquid)
- 11- Salmonella Shigella agar (selective) for isolation of *Salmonella and Shigella*.
- 12- Brilliant green agar (selective) for isolation of *Salmonella*.
- 13- Lowenstein – Jensen medium (selective) for isolation of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*.

Method of Preparation

- 1- Measure the amount of dehydrated medium that you need.
- 2- Dehydrated medium is dissolved in a measured amount of distilled water and pH adjusted.
- 3- Sterilize the medium using autoclave.
- 4- Cool after autoclaving.
- 5- Flame flask opening.
- 6- Pour in Petri dishes.
- 7- Flame medium surface.
- 8- Flame Petri dish cover.
- 9- Leave for cooling.
- 10- Put in special bags
- 11- keep in refrigerator.





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