Hy-Laboratories Ltd.
Park Tamar
Rehovot 76326 Israel
Tel : 972-8-9366475
Fax : 972-8-9366474
hylabs@hylabs.co.il
www.hylabs.co.il

MRSA AGAR

For the detection of methicillin resistant staphylococci.

Cat. No: PD309 CHROMagar MRSA
DD034 MRSA Agar/MSA

Infections caused by *Staphylococcus aureus* strain resistance to methicillin and other beta-lactames have remained a significant nosocomial problem since their emergence in the early 1980's. It is of increasingly great importance that such strains be quickly and accurately recognized, both for the appropriate selection of antimicrobial agents for therapy and for hospital infection control.

Laboratory recognition of methicillin resistant strains of *Staph. aureus* (MRSA) may prove to be a problem. In a culture containing both methicillin resistant and susceptibility organisms, unless special test conditions are used, the resistant portion of the cell population will grow more slowly and therefore be overgrown by the faster growing, susceptible sub-population preventing identification of the resistant strains.

The use of Mueller Hinton Broth with 5% NaCl was investigated by Barry in an attempt to improve the isolation of MRSA. Addition of salt appeared to enable earlier detection of resistant strains as well as increase the stability of the antibiotic agents used. More recent work by Lally has shown that the use of oxacillin together with Mannitol Salt Agar provides a reliable screening medium for the simultaneous detection and identification of MRSA.

IN USE

Inoculate the organisms onto plates containing Mannitol Salt Agar and oxacillin (MSA+OX = MRSA agar) and growth control plates Mannitol Salt Agar (MSA only). Incubate 18-24 hours at 37^{o}C and examine.
A positive result is indicated by yellow growth on both MRSA agar and the MSA. A negative result for methicillin resistant *Staph. aureus* is indicated by no growth on MRSA agar and yellow growth on MSA.

Hy-Laboratories Ltd.
Park Tamar
Rehovot 76326 Israel
Tel : 972-8-9366475
Fax : 972-8-9366474
hylabs@hylabs.co.il
www.hylabs.co.il