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## **Group A Streptococci Agar (GASA) with 5% sheep blood**

**Highly selective agar medium for the isolation of *Streptococcus pyogenes* (Group A).**

### **PD214**

Highly selective agar recommended for the primary isolation of group A *streptococci* from throat cultures and other heavily contaminated specimens in which the presence of *S. pyogenes* is suspected. Most other streptococci, neisseriae, staphylococci and gram negative bacteria are inhibited. A combination of different antimicrobial agents incorporated to an improved Tryptic Soy Blood Agar (TSBA) base with 5% sheep blood, achieves an important reduction in the growth of the competitive flora, especially *Streptococcus viridans*, resulting in increased recovery of group A streptococci. The blood's addition detects haemolytic patterns, enhanced on this improved base, and the use of a bacitracin disc (0.04 units) aids in the presumptive identification of *S. pyogenes*. Incubation under anaerobic conditions will improve the selectivity of the agar and the haemolytic reactions of the target microorganisms