

CT SORBITOL MAC CONKEY (CT SMAC)

Cat No. PD177
DD014

A selective and differential medium for the detection and presumptive identification of *E. coli* 0157:H7.

Escherichia coli serotype 0157:H7 is now recognized as an important gastro-intestinal pathogen. It was first identified as the causative agent of an outbreak of haemorrhagic colitis (HC) in 1982. Since then further outbreaks and sporadic cases of *E. coli* 0157:07 - related HC have been recorded.

Foods of animal origin are probably the major source of human infection, and outbreaks have been linked to the consumption of unpasteurized milk and inadequately cooked hamburger or fish. There is also evidence of person to person transmission, and detection of the organisms has thus become important to both food samples and clinical specimens.

SMAC is based on the characteristic inability of *E. coli* 0157:H7 to ferment sorbitol within 24 hours, using a formulation containing 1% D-Sorbitol instead of lactose. *E. coli* 0157:H7 grows in colorless colonies on this medium. However organisms as *Proteus* and *Morganella* also grow as non-sorbitol fermenters (NSF's) on SMAC, giving false positive results. The addition to the medium of Cefixime Tellurite (CT) selective supplement gives substantial suppression to NSF's organisms with no inhibitory effects on *E. coli* 0157, increasing the medium's specificity

Available in 90mm Petri dishes and divided dishes combined with MacConkey Agar..