

Use and description:

GC Agar Base is a medium which can be used for the culture and isolation of *Neisseria* and *Haemophilus* strains with the addition of haemoglobin and chemical enrichments. From this base Thayer Martin medium can be prepared with addition of vancomycin, colistin and nystatin. Addition of trimethoprim is useful to avoid the swarming of *Proteus*. The medium enriched with chocolate blood, haemoglobin and yeast concentrate, cofactors, vitamins and NAD, improves the growth of *Neisseria* spp. and *Haemophilus* spp. Vancomycin, colistin and nystatin (*MMS14 V.C.N.*) supplement can be added to increase selectivity, but the addition of trimethoprim (*MMS15 V.C.N.T.*) is useful in preventing the swarming of *Proteus*. In the case of the emergence of vancomycin sensitive gonococci lincomycin, colistin, amphotericin, trimethoprim (*MMS16 LCAT*) has made as selective agents,.

Composition per liter:

Peptones.....	16.0 g
Dipotassium hydrogen phosphate.....	4.0 g
Potassium dihydrogen phosphate.....	1.0 g
Sodium chloride.....	5.0 g
Agar.....	13.0 g

Final pH of the ready to use medium: 7.2 +/- 0.2

Medium preparation:

For preparing Thayer Martin double strength medium, suspend 7.2 grams of medium in 100 ml of distilled water. Bring to boil with stirring until complete dissolution. Autoclave at 121°C for 15 minutes. Cool to 45-50°C, mix with 100 ml of a 2% sterile haemoglobin solution supplement and selective antibiotics, pour to Petri dishes.

For preparing chocolate agar suspend 39.0 g medium in 1 liter distilled water. Bring to boil with stirring until complete dissolution. Autoclave at 121°C for 15 minutes. Add 5-10% steril defibrinated blood, mix well, heat to 80°C with stirring. Keep on this temperature for 10 min, cool to 45-50°C and pour into Petri dishes.

Quality specifications:

Dehydrated medium: homogeneous, light beige fine powder.
Ready to use medium: chocolate brown and opaque.

Microbiological response:

Organism	Result
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> ATCC 10211	Growth
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> ATCC 43069	Growth
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i> ATCC 13315	Negative
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	Negative

Storage: Dehydrated medium should be stored between 10 to 25°C. Once opened, place the container in a dark, dry place. The dehydrated medium should not be used if there is any lump or if the color has changed from the original.

For references please turn appendix 1.
For supplement details please turn appendix 2.