

Endo Agar Base

Use and description:

Medium used for the isolation of enterobacteria. Sodium sulphite and basic fuchsin inhibit most of Gram positive organisms. Coliforms break down the lactose into acid and aldehyde. Aldehyde releases fuchsin from the fuchsin sulphite and his latter colours the colonies red. This reaction is particularly intense with *E. coli*, as the fuchsin crystallises to give the colonies a metallic sheen.

Basic Fuchsin is potential carcinogen! Avoid inhalation and contact with skin!

Composition per liter:

Peptones.....	10.0 g
Agar.....	15.0 g
Lactose.....	10.0 g
Dipotassium hydrogen phosphate.....	3.5 g
Sodium sulphite.....	2.5 g
Basic fuchsin.....	0.5 g

Final pH of the ready to use medium: 7.4 +/- 0.2

Medium preparation:

Dissolve 41.5 grams of dehydrated culture medium in 1 liter of distilled water. Bring to the boil until completely dissolved. Sterilise in autoclave at 121°C for 15 minutes.. Cool to 45-50°C, homogenize perfectly and pour into Petri dishes. Endo medium should be stored in the dark.

Quality specifications:

Dehydrated medium: homogeneous, light violet fine powder.
Ready to use medium: clear, pale pink coloured.

Microbiological response:

Organism	Result
<i>Escherichia coli</i> ATCC 25922	Growth
<i>Enterobacter aerogenes</i> ATCC 13048	Growth
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i> ATCC 13315	Growth
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> ATCC 25923	No growth

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 the color has changed from the original.