

DIPSLIDES

BactD004

The TTC/MAC dipslide allows convenient enumeration of aerobic bacteria (TVC) as well as the cultivation of *Enterobacteriaceae* (coliforms). The dipslide is prepared with Nutrient TTC agar on one side (responsive to aerobic bacteria) and a MacConkey No3 agar on the other side (reddish/brown), selects for bile tolerant gram negative bacteria found in waters and sewage. The nutrient agar reacts with enzymes to produce a colour change which is specific to the bacteria type, allowing easy enumeration. Gram-positive bacteria will not grow on this media.

SAMPLING: Fluids

Do not touch the agar!

The sample should be taken by immersing both sides of the paddle into the fluid to be tested, it having first been removed from the sterile container. Excess sample should be gently shaken from the paddle before it is replaced in the container.

SAMPLING: Surfaces

The sample should be taken by allowing direct contact between the agar surface and the test material. The paddle is flexible and can be bent at the upper end to allow both surfaces to come into intimate contact. Bacterial recovery rate is about 50% so that sweeping an area approximately twice that of the paddle will give a more accurate result.

INCUBATION

Incubate at 35°C for 24-48 hours, when full enumeration should be completed.

DISPOSAL

Used slides should be incinerated, autoclaved or soaked in disinfectant for a minimum of 24 hours before disposal

STORAGE

Store in a cool dry place at an optimum of 8-15°C. Use before the expiry date on the box. Rapid fluctuations in temperature can lead to condensation forming in the bottom of the tube and potential dehydration of the agar. This does not affect dipslide performance, provided the agar still fills the tray.

INTERPRETATION

Agar side 1			Agar side 2		
Agar colour	Detection	Growth characteristics	Agar colour	Detection	Growth characteristics
Straw	Total Count	Red/Varied colonies	Red	Coliforms	Red/Straw colonies

Red/Pink = E.coli, Kleb. Aerogenes
Pale Yellow = Shigalla spp., Proteus spp.
Yellow / Green = Ps. aeruginosa

Fluids are calibrated in „Colony forming units“ (cfu) per millilitre.
Surface results are calibrated in „Colony forming units“ (cfu) per square centimetre.

For quantitative analysis compare the incubated slide to the charts provided, reading the result from the closest matching picture. It is good practice to compare all growth against a negative control (unused slide) to demonstrate high levels of infection that can appear subtle due to an even „lawn-like“ appearance across the whole slide surface.

Please note:

The results outlined in this table are according to ATCC control strains and act as a guide only.

There can be variations in growth characteristics among many different organisms.

For presumptive analysis only, confirmation of target organisms via laboratory methods is advised.

