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CULTURAL METHODS FOR THE GONOCOCCUS

Torrey, J.C. and Buchell, G.T.
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Media for the Gonococcus

Medium "C", a semi-solid agar with a growth accessory element (Huntoon). This medium, without addition of ascitic fluid, has been found useful for maintaining our collection of stock strains. Even the most delicate strains of gonococcus have remained viable for 3 -- 4 weeks, without replanting; and the majority have lived for periods of 6 -- 8 weeks or even longer, if kept at 37°C.

Preparation: 500 gms. of fresh, chopped, beef heart, free from fat (should be obtained directly from slaughterhouse). 1 whole egg and 1 liter of distilled water placed in a double boiler over a free flame, and the temperature maintained at 60°C. with constant stirring for five minutes. 10 gms. of peptone (Difco), 5 gms. of sodium chloride, and 5 gms. of agar now added and temperature raised until mixture assumes a brownish color. Then made alkaline to litmus, using a 10% solution of Na_2CO_3 . Next placed in a flask and heated at 100°C. in the Arnold steam sterilizer for 1 hour. May be cleared by straining through a fine wire mesh and then glass wool, or by depositing meat residue on glass wool and then filtering through several times. Neither cloth, cotton, or any other material with absorption powers should be used in clarifying the medium. After filtration, the reaction is brought to pH 6.8. It is then reheated and tubed in 7 c.c. amounts. It is then preferably sterilized in the Arnold sterilizer at 100°C and flowing steam, but may be sterilized in the autoclave at 10 lbs. pressure for 10 minutes.