

**PORTAGERM™ bottles (PORT-F)**

IVD

Transport medium for all organisms

**SUMMARY AND EXPLANATION**

This medium is recommended for the transport of liquid specimens at room temperature. It provides the optimum conditions necessary to maintain the viability of most micro-organisms (1, 4).

**PRINCIPLE**

PORTAGERM is a buffered agar medium containing reducing agents (2).

The redox indicator (resazurin) reveals the presence or absence of oxygen:

- lavender blue colour: presence of oxygen,
- no colour: absence of oxygen.

**CONTENT OF THE KIT**

Ready-to-use medium	
REF 41 995	10 bottles + 1 package insert

**COMPOSITION****Theoretical formula.**

This medium can be adjusted and/or supplemented according to the performance criteria required:

Mineral salts .....	8.1 g
Reducing agents .....	2 g
Resazurin .....	0.007 g
Buffer .....	0.7 g
Agar .....	9 g
Purified water .....	1 l

pH 7.3

**MATERIAL REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED**

- Sterile syringes.
  - Suitable culture media.
  - Controlled atmosphere generators.
  - Jars.
  - Bacteriology incubator.
- Or
- Thermoregulated chamber with a controlled atmosphere.

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

- **For *in vitro* diagnostic use only.**
- **For professional use only.**
- All specimens, microbial cultures and inoculated products should be considered infectious and handled appropriately. Aseptic technique and usual precautions for handling the bacterial group studied should be observed throughout this procedure. Refer to "CLSI/NCCLS M29-A, *Protection of Laboratory Workers from Occupationally Acquired Infections; Approved Guideline – Current revision*". For further information on handling precautions, refer to "Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories – CDC/NIH – Latest edition", or the current regulations in the country of use.
- Do not use reagents after the expiry date.
- Do not use bottles which show signs of contamination.
- Before use, check that the bottle cap is intact.

- The performance data presented were obtained using the procedure indicated in this package insert. Any change or modification in the procedure may affect the results.

**STORAGE CONDITIONS**

- **The bottles can be stored in their box at 2-25°C until the expiry date.**
- **Protect from light.**

**SPECIMENS**

The medium is intended for the transport of liquid specimens (3).

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE****Introduction of the specimen:**

1. Collect the specimen using a syringe.
2. Disinfect the stopper and inject the specimen through the stopper (the bottle must remain closed at all times).

**Processing of the bottles in the laboratory:**

1. Transport the bottles to the laboratory, protected from light, as rapidly as possible after specimen collection.
2. Use a syringe to carefully remove the specimen from the bottle without picking up any agar. Then inoculate the specimen onto suitable culture media.

The inoculation and incubation procedures depend on the type of specimen and the micro-organisms being tested for.

**QUALITY CONTROL****Protocol:**

The performance of the medium can be tested using the following strains:

- *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* ATCC® 43069
- *Streptococcus pyogenes* ATCC® 19615

1. Prepare a suspension of each of the strains in sterile saline solution.
2. Inject 1-2 ml of these suspensions into one bottle per strain.
3. Store the bottles at 20-25°C away from light,
  - 24 hours for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*,
  - 48 hours for *Streptococcus pyogenes*.
4. Using a syringe, withdraw a few drops of each suspension to constitute the inoculum.
5. Isolate the inoculum on the following media:
  - Chocolate PolyViteX™ agar for *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*,
  - Columbia agar + 5% sheep blood for *Streptococcus pyogenes*.
6. Incubate the plates at 33-37°C in a CO<sub>2</sub>-enriched atmosphere.
  - Chocolate PolyViteX agar for 48 hours,
  - Columbia agar + 5% sheep blood for 24 hours.

**Range of expected results:**

Strain	Results after storage at 20-25°C
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoeae</i> ATCC® 43069	Growth
<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i> ATCC® 19615	

**Note:**

It is the responsibility of the user to perform Quality Control taking into consideration the intended use of the medium, and in accordance with any local applicable regulations (frequency, number of strains, incubation temperature and environment, etc.).

**LIMITATIONS OF THE METHOD**

A lavender blue surface colour around the edge of the agar (1 mm) does not affect the quality of the medium. Bottles showing more marked oxidation should not be used.

**PERFORMANCE**

Performance was evaluated at 25°C using 14 bacterial strains and 1 yeast strain (*Candida*).

**Results**

The PORTAGERM medium maintained the viability:

- of 8 fastidious strains (*Neisseria*, anaerobes, *Corynebacterium*, *Campylobacter*, *Listeria*), for 24 hours,
- of 7 other strains (Gram-positive cocci, enterobacteria, *Candida*), for 48 hours.

**WASTE DISPOSAL**

Unused reagents may be considered as non hazardous waste and disposed of accordingly.

Dispose of all used reagents as well as any other contaminated disposable materials following procedures for infectious or potentially infectious products.

It is the responsibility of each laboratory to handle waste and effluents produced according to their nature and degree of hazardousness and to treat and dispose of them (or have them treated and disposed of) in accordance with any applicable regulations.

**LITERATURE REFERENCES**










1. ABALAIN M.I., CASIN I., CHAMBON J. et al. – Transport et conservation des souches de *Neisseria*. – *Médecine et Maladies Infectieuses*, 1985, vol. 9 bis, p. 495-498.
2. BARRY A.L., FAY G.D., SAUER R.L. - Efficiency of a transport medium for the recovery of aerobic and anaerobic bacteria from applicator swabs - *Appl. Microbiol.*, 1972, vol. 24, n°1, p. 31-33.
3. LESQUOY J.B., BERGOGNE-BEREZIN E. – Le transport et la conservation des prélèvements en bactériologie.- *Revue française des laboratoires*, 1988, vol. 173, p. 35-39.
4. SEDALLIAN A. – Les méthodes de transport de prélèvements pathologiques pour la mise en évidence des bactéries anaérobies strictes. – *Revue française des laboratoires*, 1988, vol. 173, p. 41-44.

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**INDEX OF SYMBOLS**

Symbol	Meaning
 or REF	Catalogue number
	In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Device
	Manufacturer
	Temperature limitation
	Use by
	Batch code
	Consult Instructions for Use
	Contains sufficient for <n> tests
	Protect from light

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