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# Chapter 1 Equipment and Apparatus

Equipement	Use	
Loop (wire/plastic)	Routine inoculation of agar slopes/deeps and small volumes of liquid media	
Conical flask	Large volumes of liquid media for inoculation and liquid/media for short- term storage	
Spreader (glass/plastic)	Making lawn/spread plates	
Universal bottles	Volumes of liquid and agar media/sterile solutions for inoculation or for storing sterile media or stock cultures on agar slopes	There are the second of the se
Test tube	Small volumes of liquid media/agar slopes/sterile solutions for inoculation	
Pipette (calibrated/dropping; glass/ plastic)	Transfer of measured volumes/drops of culture/sterile solutions	The same of the sa
Petri dish (plastic/ glass)	Plastic: pre-sterilised for streak/spread/lawn/pour plates; Glass: only for materials for sterilization by hot air oven, e.g. paper discs	

X

# **Apparatus**

Apparatus	Use	
Bunsen burner	Sterilization of wire loops and (with alcohol) metal forceps and glass spreaders	Shuttern Bulk
Autoclave/pressure cooker	Sterilization of media, solutions and equipment before use and	
Hot air oven	Sterilization of glass Petri dishes and pipettes and paper discs	Hot Air Dven
Microwave oven	Melting solidified agar media for use (but for sterilization)	
Incubator	Incubation of cultures (but many cultures will grow at room temperature in the interval between lessons)	
Water bath shake	Suitable temperature for keeping melted agar media molten for use (ca 50°C); accurate temperature control	The second team.
Thermometer	Checking incubator/water bath temperatures	
pH meter	Checking and adjusting pH values of media	
Refrigerator	Storage of heat-labile materials	
Microscope, slides, cover slips, stains, staining rack, immersion oil	Microscopical observations	

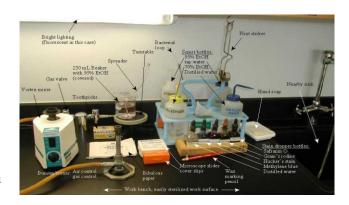
#### Material

Ma	aterial		
Cu	ılture media ingredients	Stock of a range of culture media in	
		dehydrated form	
		(tablets/powder)	
Di	sinfectants	Treatment of work	
		surface before and after	
		use and spillages;	
		disposal of used pipettes	
		and microscope slides; in	
		soap form for	
		hand washing	
Et	hanol (70% industrial	Sterilization of metal	
me	ethylated spirit	forceps and glass	
		spreaders by ignition	
Au	itoclave indicator tape	Changes colour in	Defend
		response to heat to	Autoclave Tape  Autoclave Tape  By Standard Guanate Vigor Santanian  By Standard Committee Committee  By Standard
		distinguish those items	The state of the s
		that have received heat	A second of the
		treatment	
No	on absorbent cotton	Plugs for test tubes, flasks	The state of the s
WC	ool	and pipettes	AMERICAN WOOL IS I
			to fine and
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Sterile transport swabs Spicemen collection





#### **Definition**:

Method of cultivating microbial organisms by letting them reproduce in predetermined culture media under controlled laboratory conditions

#### **Important Reasons for Bacterial Culturing**

- Isolate bacteria in pure cultures.
- Demonstrate their properties.
- Obtain sufficient growth for preparation of antigens & for other tests.
- Typing bacterial isolates.
- Antibiotic sensitivity.
- Estimate viable counts.
- Maintain stock cultures.

#### Composition of culture media:

- ☐ Provide similar environmental and nutritional conditions that exist in its natural habitat
- ☐ A culture medium contains water, a source of carbon & energy, source of nitrogen, trace elements and some growth factors
- ☐ The pH of the medium must be set accordingly

#### Classification:

Bacterial culture media can be classified in at least three ways

- 1.CONSISTANCY
- 2.NUTRITIONAL COMPONENT
- 3.FUNCTIONAL USE

#### 1) Classification based on consistency:

#### A. Liquid media:

- **★** no agar
- ➤ For inoculum preparation, Blood culture, for the isolation of pathogens from a mixture.
- **★** Eg: Nutrient broth
- \* These are available for use in test-tubes, bottles or flasks.
- ➤ Liquid media are sometimes referred as <u>"broths</u>". In liquid medium, bacteria grow uniformly producing general turbidity

#### B. Solid media:

An agar plate is a <u>Petri dish</u> that contains a <u>growth medium</u> (typically <u>agar</u> plus nutrients) used to <u>culture microorganisms</u>

#### Agar is the most commonly used solidifying agent

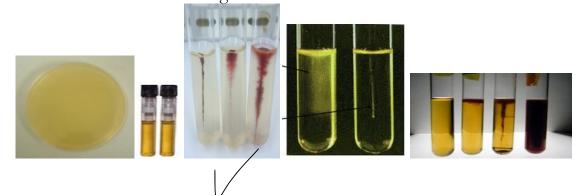
- **★** Colony morphology, pigmentation, hemolysis can be appreciated.
- **★** Eg: Nutrient agar, Blood agar

#### <u>Agar</u>

- Used for preparing solid medium
- Obtained from seaweeds.
- No nutritive value
- Not affected by the growth of the bacteria.
- Melts at 98°C & sets at 42°C
- 2% agar is employed in solid medium

#### C. Semi-solid agar

Such media are fairly soft and are useful in demonstrating bacterial motility and separating motile from non-motile strains Semi solid medium -0.5% agar.



#### 2) Classification based on nutritional component

#### A. Simple media:

Simple media such as peptone water, nutrient agar can support most non-fastidious bacteria

#### B. Complex media:

Complex media such as blood agar have ingredients whose exact components are difficult to estimate

#### C. Synthetic media:

specially prepared media for research purposes where the composition of every component is well known.

#### 3. Classification based on functional use or application

Basal media Enriched media Selective media Enrichment media Differential media Transport media Anaerobic media

#### A. Basal media

Basal media are basically simple media that supports most non-fastidious bacteria **Fastidious bacteria** = having complicated nutritional requirements Exp: Peptone water, nutrient broth and nutrient agar

#### B. Enriched media

Addition of extra nutrients in the form blood, serum, egg yolk etc to basal medium makes them enriched media

Exp: Chocolate agar, blood agar

- Chocolate agar is a non-selective, enriched growth medium. containing red blood cells that have been lysed by slowly heating to 80 °C. Chocolate agar is used for growing fastidious bacteria, such as <u>Haemophilus influenzae</u>
- **Blood agar** (BAP) Contains mammalian blood (usually sheep or horse), typically at a concentration of 5– 10%. BAP are enriched, differential media used to isolate

<u>fastidious</u> organisms and detect <u>hemolytic</u> activity



#### C. Selective media

- Enrichment media are designed to inhibit unwanted commensal or contaminating bacteria and help to recover pathogen from a mixture of bacteria.
- To make a medium selective include addition of inhibitory agents that don't affect the pathogen such as antibiotics, dyes, chemicals, alteration of pH or a combination of in agar

Exp:

- Mac Conkey's medium for gram negative bacteria
- TCBS for V.cholerae
- LJ medium M.tuberculosis
- EMB agar is selective for gram-negative bacteria. The dye Eosin methylene blue in the medium inhibits the growth of gram-positive bacteria; small amounts of this dye effectively inhibit the growth of most gram-positive bacteria



#### D. Enrichment media

Liquid media that also serves to inhibit commensal in the clinical specimen.

Selenite F broth and alkaline peptone water are used to recover pathogens from fecal specimens.

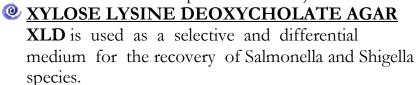
#### E. Differential media

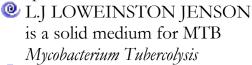
- Certain media which has substances incorporated in it enabling it to distinguish between bacteria
- are designed in such a way that different bacteria can be recognized on the basis of their colony colour

Exp: MacConkey's agar, CLED agar, TCBS agar, XLD agar etc

MacConkey's agar Distinguish between lactose fermenters & non lactose fermenters

It contains bile salts (to inhibit most Grampositive bacteria), crystal violet dye (which also inhibits certain Gram-positive bacteria)





學 Fungal media

Dermatophyte test medium









#### F. Transport media

Clinical specimens must be transported to the laboratory immediately after collection to prevent overgrowth of contaminating organisms or commensals. This can be achieved by using transport media

- 🞐 e.g. Stuart's transport media
- Cary Blair medium for campylobacter species
- Alkaline peptone water medium for v. cholerae

#### Transport media should fulfill the following criteria:

- temporary storage of specimens being transported to the laboratory for cultivation.
- maintain the viability of all organisms in the specimen without altering their concentration.
- contain only buffers and salt.
- lack of carbon, nitrogen, and organic growth factors so as to prevent microbial multiplication.

• transport media used in the isolation of anaerobes must be free of molecular oxygen.

#### G. Anaerobic media

Special growth media and incubation conditions are required for anaerobic bacteria to grow because they need low oxygen content, reduced oxidation –reduction potential and extra nutrients.

Media for anaerobes may have to be supplemented with nutrients like hemin and vitamin K

The first method uses the medium **sodium thioglycolate**, which forms an oxygen gradient during growth.

- 1 Anaerobic organisms grow at the bottom.
- **2** Aerobic organisms grow at the top.
- **3** Facultative anaerobes grow throughout the medium.

Iocalized bacterial growth

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The second method for growing anaerobic organisms is in a GasPakTMjar

- ☐ This incubation container provides an oxygen-free environment.
- ☐ Only obligate and facultative anaerobes can grow via this method.









Dissolution by heat

sterilization by Autoclave





Pouring in petri dishes

Chapter 3
Sterilization
Disinfection

#### **STERILIZATION**

**Definition**: Sterilization means the complete destruction of all the microorganisms including spores, from an object or environment. It is usually achieved by heat or filtration but chemicals or radiation can be used.

#### METHODS OF STERILIZATION

#### A. Physical methods

Heat sterilization is the most method used

#### التعقيم بالحرارة الجافة: Dry heat

 $\blacksquare$  Flamming: 250°C – 300°C

Points of forceps & Inoculation loops – heat in bunsen flame till red hot

Slow passage through flame to destroy vegetative bacteria on surface of scalpel blade, glass slides, mouths of test tubes





♣ Incineration : 870°C - 980°C حرق كامل إلى رماد

Complete burning to ashes

Used for soiled dressings, animal carcasses, pathological material تستخدم اللضمادات المتسخة، جثث الحيو أنات، المواد المرضية

Hot air oven 160°C 2H Used for Empty glassware and glass (not plastic!) pipettes and Petri dishes



#### Moist heat النعقيم بالحرارة الرطبة

Lethal effect due to denaturation & coagulation of proteins

Autoclave steam underاستخدام جهاز الاتوكلايف pressure) - 121°C, 15-20 min, 15 lbs

The principle of sterilization in an autoclave or pressure cooker is that steam under pressure is used to produce a temperature of 121°C which if held for 15 and 20 minutes.

Will kill all micro-organisms including bacterial endospores.





- Used for sharp instruments, infectious medical waste, culture media
- Arnold sterilizer 100°C, 30 min, 3 days استخدام جهاز ارنولا
  - Nutrient media & media containing sugars or gelatin or blood.
  - first day all vegetative bacteria are killed. On II & III day spores that germinate are killed

#### **Radiations**

2 types

Non-ionizing

- Infra Red radiation (rapid mass sterilization of syringes, etc)
- Ultra Violet radiation (enclosed areas)

Ionizing – Gamma, X ray, cathode ray (plastics, syringes, oil, metal foils) Sterilization controls

- Dosimeter measures radiation dose
- Colored discs

#### B. Mechanical methods

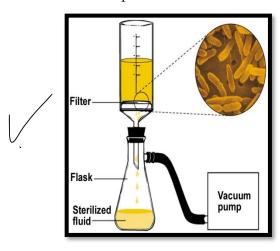
• Types of filters

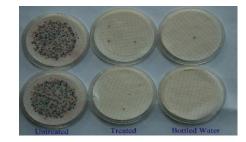
Most famous Seitz

Membrane filters – cellulose nitrate, cellulose acetate, polycarbonate, polyester filters

- Pore size:  $0.015 12 \mu m$
- HEPA filters for large volumes of air

Sterilization control – bubble pressure test





#### **DISINFECTANTS**

- **Disinfection** is the destruction, inhibition or removal of microbes that may cause disease or other problems e.g. spoilage but not necessarily bacterial spores. It is usually achieved by the use of chemicals.
  - Strong disinfectants for inanimate object
  - Mild disinfectant (antiseptic) superficial application on living tissue

#### Factors affecting DISINFECTION

- Conc of disinfectant
- Time of action
- pH of the medium
- Temperature
- Nature & number of organisms
- Presence of extraneous material
- Others hardness of water, relative humidity

# Specific disinfectants at specified working strengths are used for specific purposes

- Hypochlorite (sodium chlorate I: ) Use for Discard pots for pipettes and slides Ethanol isopropyl alcohol: use for Skin disinfection
  - Skin antiseptics at 70%
  - Denature bacterial proteins
- Aldehyde: Formaldehyde 10% used
  - In aq. soln is, bactericidal
  - Used to fumigate wards, sick rooms, labs
  - Toxic when inhaled
- Ethylene oxide
  - Especially for heart lung machines, respirators, sutures, syringes, dental equipments, plastic petri dishes
- Dyes combined with nucleic acids exp: crystal violet
  - Skin & wound antiseptics
  - · Bacteriostatic, more active against Gram Positive bacteria
- Phenolics : Carbolic acid 2-5% Powerful microbicidal, very corrosive General purpose disinfectant in hospital
- Surface active agents

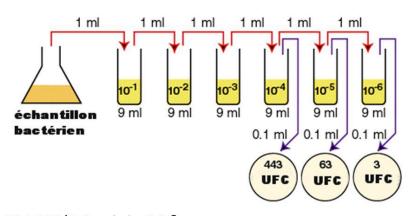
Chapter 4
Isolation ,
Methods of streak
Quantification of bacteria

#### Lisolation of bacteria from soil, water, environment .......... Decimal dilution 1 ml 1 ml 1 ml 1g in 10ml Of medium Original or distilled moculum water: bacterial 9 ml 9 ml 9 ml 9 ml 9 ml suspension Distilled water 0.1 ml 1:1,000,000 1:100,000 1:10,000

Number of bacteria/ml = number of colonies x dilution of sample

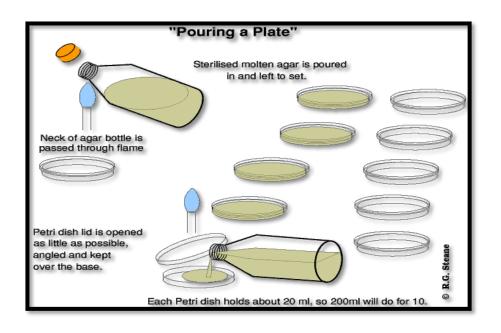
>250 colonies: Non countable

#### Number of bacteries in UFC; unit formant colonies



63 UFC/0.1 ml de  $10^{-5}$  630 UFC/1.0 ml de  $10^{-5}$  630 UFC/ml X  $10^{5}$  =  $6.3 \times 10^{7}$ /ml dans l'échantillon original

Pouring plate





#### **¥**Isolation of bacteria in pure cultures

Pure culture contain one type of colonies: <u>individuals</u> <u>colonies</u>

Mixture culture contain different types of colonies

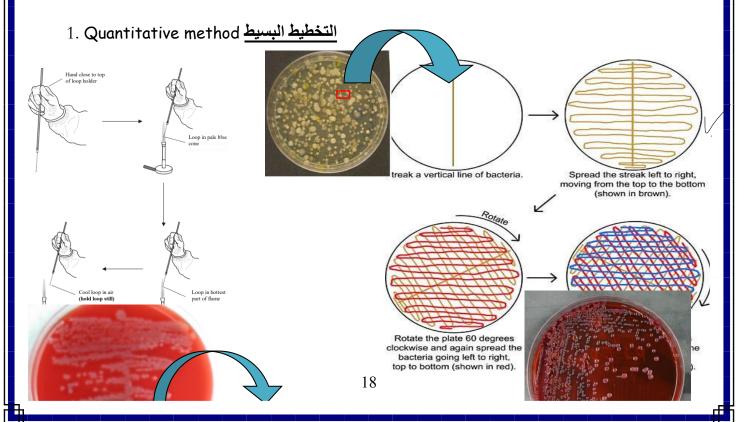
For obtaining pure cultures of bacteria, you should provide:

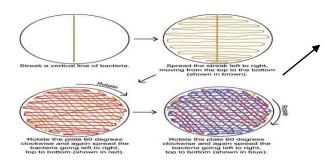
Single colonies separated and solid culture media

Based on the streak plate methods



#### Streak plate methods

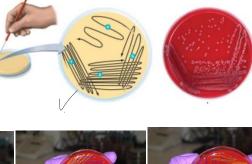


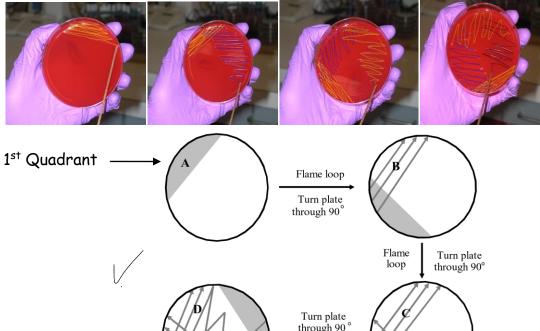


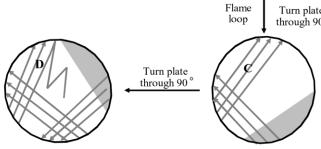
#### 2. Semi-quantitative method التخطيط المتعامد

Techniques to isolate microorganisms in pure cultures or axenic cultures

Streak-plate technique of isolation





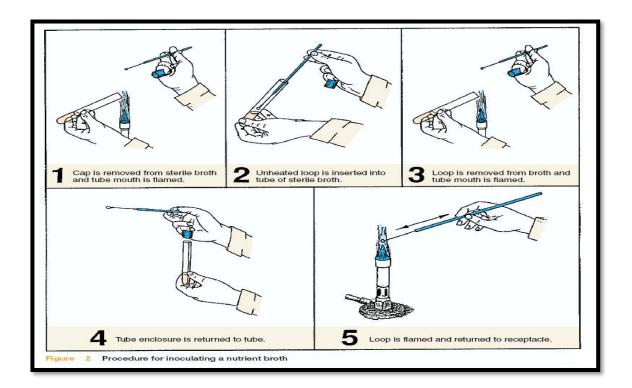


#### طريقة التخطيط على الآجار المائل Streak on agar slant plate



لتخطيط المتعرج أو بعمل خط مستقيم على سطح البيئة من الأسفل إلى الأعلى Zigzag streak or a straight line on the surface from the bottom to the top



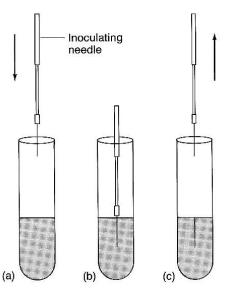


#### inoculation of agar deep tube تلقيح الآجار العميق ( المستوى ) 🖶

- Provide anaerobic conditions for the growth of bacteria



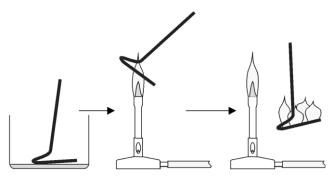
- Test the motility of bacteria

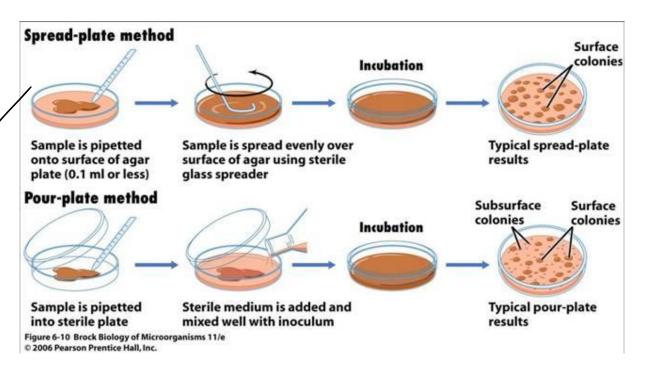




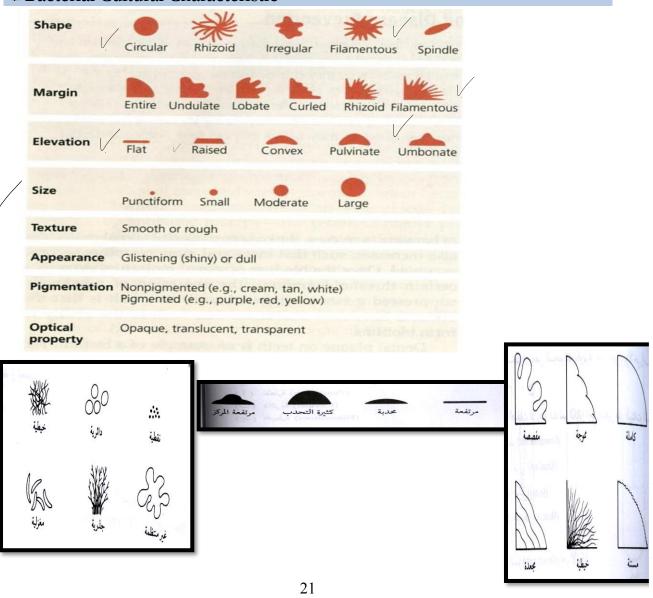
#### Spread plate

Flaming a glass spreader





#### Bacterial Cultural Characteristic



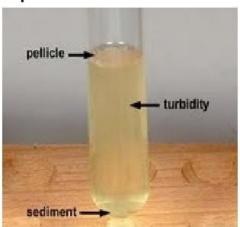
# Bacterial growth and propagation

#### Phenomena of bacterial growth in liquid medium

Broth (a common liquid medium) cultures can exhibit: (i) forming cloudiness in broth (growth with uniform turbid pattern), or (ii) forming a ring at the top of broth (growth with suspension pattern), or (iii) forming sediment at the bottom of broth (growth with sedimentary pattern).



•Transformation of a clear broth medium to a turbid suspension.

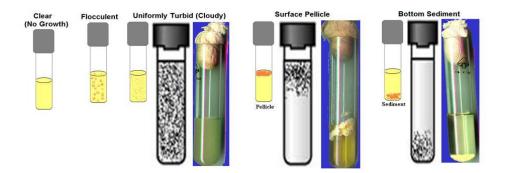


Pellicle are the thin layer of organic substances and dead bacterial cells which float at the top surface of the liquid broth culture.

Turbidity in the broth culture occurs due to increase in the bacterial population after growth.

Sediment is formed at the bottom of a broth-culture tube due to accumulation of mature bacterial cells

# Bacterial growth in liquid media Patterns



## How to Graph Bacterial Growth (i)

(I) Measuring the numbers of bacteria.

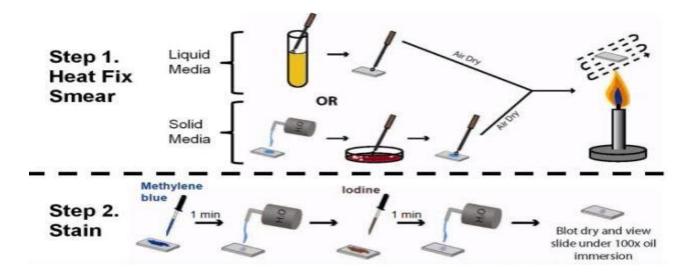
#### Common methods include:

- a) Turbidity: to measure the total bacteria (live and dead) in liquid cultures. This is usually quantitated with a spectrophotometer, the absorption wavelength at 600 nm will be measured.
- b) Colony counting method: that means counting the colony numbers on a medium plate after inoculated with a known volume of bacterial liquid culture.



## **Smears**

- Performing quality smears takes practice. There are many steps in the preparation of a smear that must be performed correctly. (Think of Goldilocks that wants her porridge "just right")
- 1. Smear bacteria onto slide from broth or agar
  - Too thick and you can't see through specimen, too thin and you can't find any bacteria
- 2. Air dry
  - Again, you do not want too large a smear or it will take a long tin for the smear to completely air dry.
- 3. Heat Fix (see next slide)



#### **Smear Preparation for Staining:**

✓ For the broth culture, shake the culture tube and, with an inoculating loop, aseptically transfer 1 to 2 loopful of bacteria to the center of the slide.

Spread this out to about a 1/2-inch area.

✓ When preparing a smear from a agar slant or agar plate, place a loopful of distilled water in the center of the slide.

With the inoculating needle, aseptically pick up a very small amount of culture and mix into the drop of water and spread it out.

#### From liquid medium

A- draw a target circle on the bottom of the slide

- B-Place 2 loopfuls of culture in the center of target circle and spread over the entire circle
- C-Let it air dry
- D-Using a clothespin, grab slide and pass it several times over the flame to heat kill and fix the organisms.

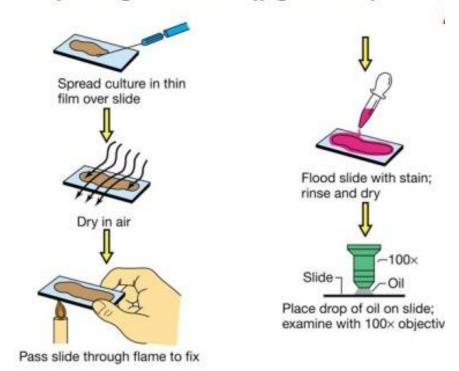
#### 3. Heat Fix

- Pass slide through flame quickly 3-4 times
- · Heat fix too little and organisms may wash off slide
- · Heat fix too much and organisms may be distorted
- · Heat fixation:
  - 1. kills organisms
  - 2. adheres specimen to slide
  - 3. promotes stainability of specimen

#### 2. Chemically fix:

 by flooding the slide with methanol and allow to evaporate (Denatures bacterial enzymes and enhances adherence of bacteria to the slide)

# Preparing a smear (pg. 31-32)



#### **SIMPLE STAINING:**

Simple to perform- only one basic stain used.

E.g. Crystal violet, Methylene blue, Basic fuschin etc.,

- Principle:
  - All bacteria in smear takes stain and appears in colour of stain.
  - Basic stain more affinity towards bacterial surface & stains the bacteria.
- Uses:

To study morphology and arrangement of bacteria.

#### PROCEDURE:

- A bacterial smear is prepared, air-dried and heat-fixed.
- A Heat-fixed smear is flooded with either one of the basic stain and allowed to react for 1-2 minutes and then washed under running tap water.
- Air dried and focused with 10x,45x & 100x.





- > Gather all equipment and supplies
  - Gram stain
  - Microscope slides
  - Heat source
  - Sterile swab or loop
  - Culture or specimen
  - Microscope

#### Reagents used in gram staining

- ➤ Gram Crystal Violet 0.5%
- ➤ Gram Iodine
  - Potassium Iodide 2%
  - Resublimed Iodine
    1%
- Gram Decolorizer
  - Methanol 80%Acetone 20%
- ➤ Gram Safranine 1%
- 1. CRYSTAL VIOLET
  - Primary stain
  - Violet colored, stains all micro-org
- 2. GRAM IODINE
  - Mordant
  - Forms Crystal violet iodine complexes
- 3. DECOLORIZER
  - Acetone + Methanol
  - Removes Crystal violet iodine complex from thin peptidoglycan layers
  - Dissolves outer layer of Gram negative org
- 4. GRAM SAFRANINE
  - Counter stain
  - Red colored

#### Steps

#### Step 1 - Prepare a Smear

- Label the slide with the patient's initials or the specimen number.
- Choose an isolated colony off of the agar plate and obtain bacteria with a sterile swab.
- ➤ Place the swab on the microscope slide and spread the colonies in a circular motion.



➤ Heat fix the microorganisms to the slide by placing the bottom of the slide to heat for approximately 30 seconds





Step 2. Apply the Primary Stain

Flood the surface of the slide with Crystal Violet stain and let sit for one minute. Rinse the slide with distilled water.





Step 3. Apply the mordant: iodine

Flood the slide with Gram's Iodine and time for one minute. Rinse the slide with distilled water





**Step 4**. Flood the slide with Gram's **decolorizer** and time for 30 seconds

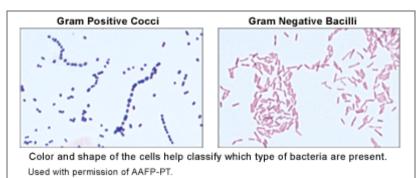


Step 5. Counterstain



Flood the slide with the counterstain, Safranin, and let sit for one minute Rinse the slide with distilled water

Step 6. Rinse, Dry and Observe



Rinse with water to remove excess stain
Blot dry
Observe under oil
immersion

