

CHROMagar™ Staph aureus



**For isolation and direct differentiation
of *Staphylococcus aureus***

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www.CHROMagar.com

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Background

Food Industry: Human beings are the main reservoir of *S. aureus*. A carrier contaminates the surrounding environment when coughing, sneezing and by touching food with a hand. It is often found in the environment and on food preparation surfaces and also in certain uncooked foods (dairy products, salads, sandwiches...). It is important to check the presence of *S. aureus* before and after the foodstuff sterilisation process.

Clinical relevance: *S. aureus* is the leading cause of skin and soft tissue infections and can also cause serious infections such as bloodstream infections, pneumonia, or bone and joint infections.

Intended Use

CHROMagar™ Staph aureus is a selective chromogenic culture medium intended for use in the qualitative direct detection, differentiation and presumptive identification of *Staphylococcus aureus* to aid in the diagnosis of *S. aureus* colonization. The test is performed with swabs from teguments, wounds or soft tissue specimens. Results can be interpreted after 18-24 h of aerobic incubation at 35-37 °C.

The medium can also be used as an early warning indicator for diagnostic tests of infections to signal the possible presence of *S. aureus*. This use does not replace the institution's protocols. Concomitant cultures are necessary to recover organisms for further microbiological testing or epidemiological typing. A lack of growth or the absence of colonies on CHROMagar™ Staph aureus does not preclude the presence of *S. aureus*. CHROMagar™ Staph aureus is not intended to diagnose infection nor to guide nor monitor treatment for infections.

CHROMagar™ Staph aureus can also be used in the detection of *S. aureus* in the analyses of food products for human consumption, animal feed and in environmental samples.

Medium Performance

Clinical application

1 EASY TO READ
compared to Blood Agar or Mannitol Salt Agar. CHROMagar™ Staph aureus allows easier differentiation of *S. aureus* colonies enhanced by a mauve colour and is of considerable help in identifying suspect colonies. Thus, it reduces the confirmatory workload.

2 HIGH SPECIFICITY AND SENSITIVITY

	Analytical data *	Clinical data **	
		CHROMagar™ Staph aureus	Reference medium (Horse blood agar)
Sensitivity	100 %	95.5 %	81.9 %
Specificity	100 %	99.4 %	98.9 %

* Data obtained after a 24 h incubation at 37 °C in aerobic conditions in the study "Evaluation of CHROMagar Staph. aureus, a new chromogenic medium, for isolation and presumptive identification of *Staphylococcus aureus* from human clinical specimens". Gaillot et al., 2000. *J. Clin. Microbiol.*

** Data obtained after a 24 h incubation at 37 °C in aerobic conditions with 2000 samples (wounds, sputum, nasal and rectal swabs...), being positive 310, in the study "Evaluation of CHROMagar Staph. aureus, a new chromogenic medium, for isolation and presumptive identification of *Staphylococcus aureus* from human clinical specimens". Gaillot et al., 2000. *J. Clin. Microbiol.*

Food and environmental quality control

1 EASY TO PREPARE

The conventional medium for *S. aureus* is the Baird-Parker which has to be supplemented with RPF (Rabbit Plasma Fibrinogen), rendering the plate manufacturing delicate and complex, and also reducing the shelf life of the poured plates to a couple of weeks. On the contrary, CHROMagar™ Staph aureus comes with all the compounds already in the agar (no need of any supplement) and remains stable.

2 FAST

The results on Baird Parker have to be read after 48 h of incubation while with CHROMagar™ Staph aureus the results are available after only 24 h.

Plate Reading

- *S. aureus*
→ pink to mauve
- Other bacteria
→ colourless, blue or inhibited

Medium Description

Powder Base	Total
Agar	82.5 g/L
Peptone and yeast extract	15.0
Salts	40.0
Chromogenic mix	25.0
Storage at 15/30 °C - pH 6.9 +/- 0.2	2.5
Shelf Life	> 18 months

Usual Samples	Clinical: Swabs from teguments, wounds or soft tissue specimens. Industrial: Food stuff, animal feed and environmental samples.
Procedure	Direct streaking. Incubate at 35-37 °C for 18-24 h. Aerobic conditions.

Scientific Publications on this product: available on www.CHROMagar.com
Please read carefully the instructions for use (IFU document) available on www.CHROMagar.com



Order References

Please use these product references when contacting your local distributor:

5000 mL pack TA672

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