



ERLICH REACTIVE

I V D

In Vitro Diagnostic Medical Device

Stability: 1 year under recommended storage conditions.

Storage conditions: Store at 0 - 4°C, protected from fire and sunlight. Packing to be stored tightly closed.

Procedure: ~ 1 min.

Content:

Reagents:

Erlich reactive

Application:

Erlich reactive is alternative to Kovac's reagent for indols, but the test is more sensitive. It needs organic extraction with ether or xylene before use.

As far back as 1889, the indole test was used as a means to distinguish between *Escherichia coli* and *Enterobacter aerogenes*. The numerous variations of the indole test alone and in combination with other biochemical tests attest to the central role this test has played in the characterization of coliforms (gram-negative nonsporulating bacilli that ferment lactose, producing acid and gas). The indole test is still used as a classic test to distinguish indole-positive *E. coli* from indole-negative *Enterobacter* and *Klebsiella*.

The indole test screens for the ability of an organism to degrade the amino acid tryptophan and produce indole.

N.B!: The clinical interpretation of any staining, or its absence, should be complemented by morphological studies and proper controls, and should be evaluated within the context of the patient's clinical history and other diagnostic tests by a qualified pathologist.

Method:

1. Inoculate the pure culture at 36°C (+/- 2°C) for 24 to 48 hours in trypton broth (10g Tryptone + 5g NaCl in 1l distilled and sterilized water) or another a suitable growth medium with high levels of tryptophan, due to laboratory requirements. (Tryptophan peptone broth etc.)
2. Add 1 ml ether or xylene. Mix well and allow the organic solvent to rise to the surface.
3. Add 5 drops (to 0.5ml due to laboratory requirements) Erlich reagent so that it flows slowly into the sides of the tube and get into the culture medium.

Results:

- A positive indole test is indicated by the formation of a pink to red color ("cherry-red ring") in the reagent layer on top of the medium within seconds of adding the reagent.
- If a culture is indole negative, the reagent layer will remain yellow or be slightly cloudy

References:

1. ASM MicrobeLibrary
2. N. Kovacs, Eine vereinfachte Methode zum Nachweis der Indolbildung durch Bakterien., Z. Immunitats.Forsch. Exp. Ther., 55, 311 (1928)
3. BioOptica
4. DAKO

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