



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

### REINFORCED CLOSTRIDIAL AGAR (RCA)

#### PRODUCTS

AS-6061      Reinforced Clostridial Agar (RCA)      4 plate / pkg

#### INTENDED PURPOSE

TruPRAS™ Anaerobic Culture Media is intended for the transport, preservation, or cultivation of a wide variety of microorganisms from specimens to aid in the isolation of bacteria for in vitro diagnostic and / or research / general laboratory purposes.

#### INTENDED USERS

Scientists, laboratory, and healthcare professionals trained in anaerobic microbiology techniques working in areas such as clinical, research, industrial, pharmaceutical and veterinary applications.

#### FORMULATION\*

RCA is an enriched, non-selective medium designed for the growth of *Clostridium* species and other anaerobic or facultative bacteria from a variety of specimens. Originally formulated by Hirsch and Grinstead, RCA supports the growth of *Clostridia* even from a small inoculum. The nutritive base includes casein, beef extract, and yeast extract, which provides sources of carbon, nitrogen, vitamins, and minerals. Dextrose is added as a carbohydrate source. L-cysteine functions as a reducing agent. Soluble starch helps detoxify metabolic by-products, and sodium acetate acts as a buffering agent. This medium is prepared, dispensed, and packaged under oxygen-free conditions using TruPRAS™ Technology to prevent the formation of oxidized products prior to use. This product is supplied ready to use, with no pre-reduction step required.

Pancreatic digest of casein	10.00	g
Beef extract	10.00	g
Yeast extract	3.00	g
Dextrose	5.00	g
Sodium chloride	5.00	g
Soluble starch	1.00	g
Sodium acetate	3.00	g
Agar	15.00	g
L-cysteine hydrochloride	0.50	g
DI Water	1.00	L

\*Approximate formula. Adjusted and/or supplemented as required to meet performance criteria.

Final pH: 6.8 ± 0.3 at 25°C

Final weight: 16.0 g ± 1.6 g

#### PRECAUTIONS

For *IN VITRO DIAGNOSTIC USE* only. Utilize approved biohazard precautions and aseptic technique when using this product. This product is for use by properly trained and qualified personnel only. Sterilize all biohazard waste prior to disposal. This product is manufactured as a single use device.



Report serious incidents that occur in direct relation to this product to [tech@biolog.com](mailto:tech@biolog.com). As necessary, report serious incidents to the regulatory authority in which the user is established.

This product may contain components of animal origin. All components of animal origin have been sourced from Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy- (BSE-) free and Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathy- (TSE-) free countries. Certified knowledge of the origin of animal derived components does not guarantee the absence of transmissible pathogenic agents. It is recommended that Universal Precautions be observed.

When working with anaerobic culture media, the potential for ergonomic hazards may exist due to repetitive motions, awkward postures, improper bench/chair heights or poor lighting. Although it is beyond the scope and provision of products by Anaerobe Systems, it should be recognized and mitigated by the end user in the laboratory environment.

## STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

**Storage:** Upon receipt, store at room temperature (15 – 25°C) in original package until used. Avoid overheating or freezing. Do not use media if there are signs of deterioration (shrinking, cracking, or discoloration due to oxidation of media) or contamination. The expiration date applies to the product in its original packaging and stored as directed. Do not use product past the expiration date shown on the label.

**Shelf Life:** 4 months from the date of manufacture.

## PROCEDURE

**Specimen Collection:** Protect specimens for anaerobic culture from oxygen during collection, transportation, and processing. Consult appropriate references for detailed instructions concerning collection and transportation of anaerobes. The selection of specimens for culture is made by physicians or scientists collecting the sample.

**Methods for Use:** RCA should be inoculated directly with a specimen or from a broth that has been inoculated from a specimen. Streak plates with inoculum to obtain isolated colonies and immediately place into an anaerobic atmosphere, incubating at 35 – 37°C for 18 – 48 hours. Extended periods of incubation may be required to recover slower growing anaerobes. Detailed instructions for processing anaerobic cultures can be found in the listed references. As packaged, this medium constitutes a qualitative, manual method.

## MATERIALS REQUIRED BUT NOT PROVIDED

Standard microbiological supplies and equipment such as loops, saline blanks, slides, staining supplies, microscope, incinerator / autoclave, incubators, anaerobic chamber / anaerobic jars, disinfectant, other culture media, and serological / biochemical reagents.

## INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS

RCA supports robust growth of *Clostridia* and a wide range of other anaerobic organisms isolated from a specimen.

## LIMITATIONS

RCA does not provide sufficient information for the complete identification of bacterial isolates. Additional test procedures and media are necessary to achieve definitive identification. Consult reference materials for additional information.

## QUALITY CONTROL

The following organisms are routinely used for quality control testing at Anaerobe Systems using the specifications outlined in the CLSI document M22-A3: Quality Control for Commercially Prepared Microbiological Culture Media.



Organism Tested	ATCC® #	Results
Bacteroides fragilis	25285	Growth
Enterococcus faecalis	29212	Growth
Cutibacterium acnes	6919	Growth
Clostridium sporogenes	3584	Growth
Clostridium beijerinckii	8260	Growth
Clostridium perfringens	13124	Growth
Clostridium innocuum	14501	Growth
Paraclostridium sordellii	9714	Growth
Clostridioides difficile	9689	Growth
Clostridioides difficile	700057	Growth

**User Quality Control:** The final determination to the extent and quantity of user laboratory quality control must be determined by the end user.

If the nutritive capacity of this medium is to be tested for performance, it is recommended that the following ATCC® organisms be evaluated for growth.

Organism	ATCC® #	Results
Bacteroides fragilis	25285	Growth
Clostridium innocuum	14501	Growth
Enterococcus faecalis	29212	Growth
Clostridium perfringens	13124	Growth
Clostridioides difficile	9689	Growth

**Physical Appearance:** RCA should appear opaque to translucent light-yellow in color.

ATCC® is a registered trademark of American Type Culture Collection.

## REFERENCES

1. CLSI. *Principles and Procedures for Detection of Anaerobes in Clinical Specimens; Approved Guideline*. CLSI document M56-A. Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute; 2014
2. Leber AL, Burnham CA, eds. *Clinical Microbiology Procedures Handbook*. 5th ed. 4 vols. Washington, DC: ASM Press; 2023.
3. Carroll KC, Pfaller MA, eds. *Manual of Clinical Microbiology*. 13th ed. 4 vols. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley-Blackwell; 2023.
4. Jousimies-Somer HR, Sutter VL, eds. *Wadsworth-KTL Anaerobic Bacteriology Manual*. 6th ed. Belmont, CA: Star Publishing Company; 2002.
5. CLSI. *Quality Control for Commercially Prepared Microbiological Culture Media; Approved Standard- Third Edition*. CLSI document M22-A3. Wayne, PA: Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute; 2004.
6. Wilkins TD, Theil T. Modified broth-disc method for testing the antibiotic susceptibility of anaerobic bacteria. *Antimicrob Agents Chemother*. 1973;3(3):350-356.
7. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. *Animal Health Status of Regions*. Published March 12, 2025. <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/regionalization-evaluation-services/region-health-status>



8. European Commission. *Note for guidance on minimising the risk of transmitting animal spongiform encephalopathy agents via human and veterinary medicinal products (EMA/410/01 Rev. 3)*. Published March 5, 2011. <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/3392e464-ba89-4ae4-955c-a07f617c8e06/language-en>

## GLOSSARY OF SYMBOLS

SYMBOL	TITLE	DESCRIPTION	STANDARD	REF#
	Catalog number	Indicates the manufacturer's catalog number so that the medical device can be identified.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.1.1
	Lot number/ Batch code	Indicates the manufacturer's batch code so that the batch or lot can be identified.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.1.5
	Use-by date	Indicates the date after which the medical device is not to be used.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.1.4
	Authorized Representative	Indicates the Authorized Representative in the identified country or jurisdiction.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.1.2
	Do not re-use/ Single use only	Indicates a medical device that is intended for one single use only.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.4.2
	Consult instructions for use or consult electronic instructions for use	Indicates the need for the user to consult the instructions for use.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.4.3
	Temperature limit	Indicates the temperature limits to which the medical device can be safely exposed.	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.3.7
	In vitro diagnostic medical device	Indicates that a medical device is intended to be used as an in vitro diagnostic medical device	ISO 15223-1 Medical devices – Symbols to be used with medical device labels, labelling, and information to be supplied	5.5.1
	CE Mark European Conformity	Designates that the product labeled is authorized for sale in European countries.	EU IVDR (EU) 2017/746	

### AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION



### REVISION 2

Additions: None

Changes: Extended shelf life from 90 days to 4 months.

Deletions: None