

Document Name:

Dispensette Sterility Test

Approved By:

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Status: APPROVED

PURPOSE:

To check the sterility of the saline used to prepare organisms for Vitek 2 and manual susceptibility testing. To be performed each Monday with weekly Vitek and KB QC testing.

REAGENTS and/or MEDIA:

- Thioglycolate broth
- Sterile saline (0.45% and 0.9%)

SUPPLIES:

- Dispensette
- Dispensette mounting tool
- Bottle-brush
- Towel
- M11 Ultraclave Sterilizer and supplies

SPECIAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

Containment Level 2 facilities, equipment, and operational practices for work involving infectious or potentially infectious materials or cultures.

- Lab gown must be worn when performing activities with potential pathogens.
- Gloves must be worn when direct skin contact with infected materials is unavoidable.
- Eye protection must be used where there is a known or potential risk of exposure to splashes.
- All procedures that may produce aerosols, or involve high concentrations or large volumes should be conducted in a biological safety cabinet (BSC).
- The use of needles, syringes, and other sharp objects should be strictly limited.

All patient specimens are assumed to be potentially infectious. Universal precautions must be followed. Since viable micro-organisms are used, all cultures must be handled with appropriate precautions. All equipment in contact with cultures should be decontaminated by appropriate methods.

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PROCEDURE INSTRUCTIONS:

Step	Action
Weekly Dispensette Sterility Check	
1	<p>A standing order has been set up in the LIS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patient last name: TEST. • Patient first name: MICRO STERILITY. • CXENV will be automatically ordered. • Collect, receive and plate order. • In Micro OE comment, state source of saline (KB Dispensette or Vitek Dispensette).
2	Label 2 Thioglycolate broth tubes, one for the KB Dispensette order and one for the Vitek Dispensette order.
3	Dispense 3mL of saline into each of the THIO broths.
4	Place broths in the Saline Sterility rack in the O ₂ incubator.
5	On MIC70110.1 - Maintenance Record – Vitek 2, check off and initial that saline sterility was performed.
6	Read broths daily for 3 days and observe for signs of growth.

INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS:

Step	Action
Interpretation of sterility specimens	
1	<p>If THIO broth remains clear (no growth):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record “No Growth” results daily in LIS. • After 3 days, report “No Growth After 3 Days” and finalize.
2	<p>If THIO broth turns cloudy (growth):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record “Cloudy-AUTOCLAVE dispenser ^CLAVE”. • Result ^CLAVE with date dispensette was autoclaved and initials. • Report “Cloudy-AUTOCLAVE dispenser” and finalize. • Discard saline bottle and follow instructions below to clean the dispensette.

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1. Piston




2. Volume adjustment knob

3. Discharge tube

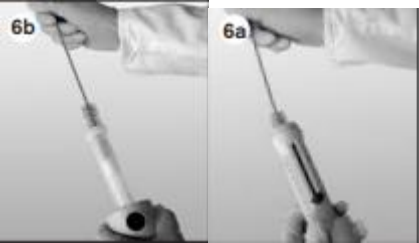

4. Discharge tube screw cap

5. Telescopic filling tube

CLEANING THE DISPENSETTE:

Step	Action
Cleaning the dispensette	
1	It is important that the dispensette is cleaned before it is autoclaved to prevent damage from occurring.
2	Remove the dispensette from saline bottle and screw onto a bottle of sterile water. Rinse the dispensette several times by completely filling and emptying it.
3	Remove dispensette from sterile water and discharge any remaining liquid.
4	<p>Pull out the telescopic filing tube.</p> 
5	<p>Use mounting tool to unscrew the filing valve.</p> 
6	<p>Loosen piston. Hold the housing securely and unscrew the piston completely by turning it to the left. Carefully pull out the piston. Do not remove the housing!</p> 

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7	<p>Clean piston and cylinder with a bottle-brush. If necessary remove deposits at the edge of the glass cylinder taking care not to scratch the interior of the cylinder.</p> 
8	<p>Flush all parts with sterile water and allow parts to dry.</p>
9	<p>Insert the piston completely into the cylinder.</p>
10	<p>Check that the filling valve is securely seated and tightened using the mounting tool.</p> 
11	<p>Reassemble the dispensette.</p>
12	<p>Place dispensette and mounting tool on a towel. Ensure parts do not come into contact with metallic surfaces.</p>
13	<p>Autoclave in the M11 Ultraclave Sterilizer using program 1, 250°F for 50 minutes.</p>
14	<p>After cycle is complete, allow dispensette to cool for approximately 2 hours.</p>
15	<p>Inspect all parts for any damage.</p>
16	<p>Screw dispensette onto new bottle of saline.</p>
17	<p>Perform volume test to ensure volume dispensed is 3mL.</p>
18	<p>Repeat sterility testing to ensure sterility of dispensette has been achieved.</p>

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REFERENCES:

- Brand, Dispensette Operating Manual

REVISION HISTORY:

REVISION	DATE	Description of Change	REQUESTED BY
1.0	22NOV17	Initial Release	L. Steven