

Reading the Results

Evaluation

Colonies of VR *Enterococcus* appear mauve (transmissible, i.e., *VanA* and *VanB* mediated resistance) or blue (intrinsic, i.e., *VanC*, *VanD*, *VanE* mediated resistance). Non-resistant bacteria are inhibited.

Van A/Van B strains:

VRE. <i>Faecalis</i>	Mauve
VRE. <i>Faecium</i>	Mauve

Other VR strains:

<i>E. gallinarum</i>	Blue or inhibited
<i>E. casseliflavus</i>	Blue or inhibited
Other bacteria	Inhibited

Limitations

For Research Use Only. Not for use in diagnostic procedures. Sub-culturing is required for identification as VRE, e.g., by biochemical profiling or vancomycin susceptibility testing. If vancomycin susceptibility testing is necessary, one of the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) reference methods should be used; alternatively, a commercial antibiotic susceptibility test can be substituted. Some rare strains of Lactobacilli and Pediococcus can sometimes appear as pinpoint mauve colonies. There are rare strains of *E. gallinarum* that can sometimes appear as mauve colonies when extending incubation past 24 hours.

The InTray COLOREX VRE is an agar medium that is susceptible to condensation collection within the inner seal, especially when stored at low temperatures and/or having been exposed to extreme temperature fluctuations. If moisture is visible on the surface of the InTrays, dry them (with the seal removed and InTray label in a position allowing for air flow) under a BSL-2 cabinet just prior to inoculation. There should be no visible droplets of moisture on the surface of the agar when they are inoculated. The surface of the dried medium should be smooth and should not show signs (webbed ribbing pattern on the agar surface) of desiccation.

Symbol glossary: biomeddiagnostics.com/1/symbol-glossary

Document Revision History

Rev. B, Aug 2025



Updated manufactured by and company address.



Manufactured by:
Biomed Diagnostics, a DCN Dx brand
3193 Lionshead Ave., Ste. 200 Carlsbad, CA USA
biomeddiagnostics.com



InTray™
COLOREX™ VRE

REF	11-153-001		5
REF	11-153-002		20

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Not for use in diagnostic procedures.



Introduction

Intended Use

COLOREX VRE is a selective and differential chromogenic medium, containing vancomycin, intended for use in isolation of pure cultures of vancomycin resistant *Enterococcus faecium* and *Enterococcus faecalis* (VRE) from laboratory samples. Further, colony color is used to differentiate transmissible forms of resistance (i.e., *VanA* and *VanB* resistance) from intrinsically resistant (i.e. *VanC*, *VanD*, *VanE*, etc.) strains. The test can be performed with samples composed of mixed populations of bacteria, e.g., stool, biological fluids, surface streaks, etc. COLOREX VRE is not intended for use in the identification of colonization with VRE to aid in the prevention and control of VRE in healthcare settings. COLOREX VRE is not intended to diagnose VRE infections, guide or monitor treatment for infections, or provide susceptibility results to vancomycin. Sub-culture is necessary for bacterial identification and susceptibility testing.

Description and Principle

With COLOREX VRE medium, VR *E. faecalis* and VR *E. faecium* strains are easily distinguishable by colony color. Selective additives inhibit the growth of yeast, gram-negative bacteria, non-*Enterococcus* gram-positive strains, and vancomycin-sensitive *Enterococcus*. Typical media, e.g. Bile Esculine Agar w/ vancomycin gives no differentiation between transmissible resistant *E. faecalis*/*E. faecium* and other intrinsically resistant enterococci; it often leads to false positives by other esculine hydrolysing bacteria, i.e. lactococcus, pediococcus, etc.

Reagents and Appearance

COLOREX VRE contains agar, peptone and yeast nutrients, salts, antimicrobial selective compounds and chromogenic additives. Media has a white opaque appearance with a final pH of 6.8 ± 0.2 . Do not use if the medium shows signs of deterioration, shrinking, cracking, discoloration or contamination.

Precautions, Safety and Disposal

Read the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) and follow the handling instructions. Wear appropriate protective eyewear, clothing and gloves.

Once the tray has been inoculated and resealed, re-open only in a biological safety cabinet. Because of the potential for containing infectious materials, the tray must be destroyed by autoclaving at 121°C for 20 minutes.

Storage

Upon receipt, store InTray COLOREX VRE under refrigeration ($2-8^\circ\text{C}$). Medium can be kept for one day at ambient temperature. Protect media from exposure to light, excessive heat, moisture and freezing. Do not open until ready to use.

Shelf Life

InTray COLOREX VRE has a shelf life of 6 months from the date of manufacture.

Procedure

Key notes regarding specimen collection:

InTray COLOREX VRE is appropriate for research samples, e.g., fecal, water, air and environmental.

1 Prepare InTray



Allow the InTray to warm to $18-25^\circ\text{C}$ ($64-77^\circ\text{F}$).

Lift the lower right corner of the flexible InTray label until the protective seal is completely visible.

Materials Provided

- InTray COLOREX VRE test(s)

Materials Required but Not Provided

- Sample collection instruments or inoculation tools, e.g., swabs, filters, forceps
- Laboratory incubator capable of incubation at $37 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($95-102^\circ\text{F}$)

2 Open Seals



Remove the paper-foil seal by pulling the tab.

Discard the seal.

Do not remove or alter the white filter strip over the vent hole!

3 Inoculate Sample



Streak sample onto the agar surface.

4 Secure InTray



Reseal InTray label to the plastic tray body.

Press all around the perimeter of the InTray to ensure a complete seal.

Immediately label the InTray with sample information and date.

Do not cover the viewing window.

Incubation

Incubate at $37 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ ($95-102^\circ\text{F}$) for 24 hours under ambient atmosphere.

Quality Control

This product has been tested and meets the CLSI (formerly NCCLS) Approved Standard for commercially prepared media (M22-A3). At the time of manufacture, quality control testing is performed on each lot of the InTray COLOREX VRE. The ability of the media to support growth and demonstrate expected biochemical reactions and morphology is verified by lot.

ATCC® Control Strains

Organism	ATCC	Result
Vancomycin^R strain:		
<i>E. faecalis</i>	51299	Mauve
Vancomycin^S strain:		
<i>E. faecalis</i>	29212	Inhibited
<i>E. casseliflavus</i>	700327	Blue or Inhibited
<i>E. gallinarum</i>	49573	Blue or Inhibited
Other bacteria:		
<i>E. coli</i>	25922	Inhibited
<i>S. aureus</i>	25923	Inhibited
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	66029	Inhibited