**Brilliance™ VRE Agar** is a chromogenic screening plate for the detection of Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE). The medium provides presumptive identification of *Enterococcus faecium* and *Enterococcus faecalis*, direct from clinical samples.

**SAVES TIME**
- Presumptive identification of vancomycin resistant *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis* in 24 hours, direct from sample

**CONVENIENT AND EASY TO USE**
- Quick and easy screening test, ready-to-use plates with a new semi-opaque background
- Clear differentiation of *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis* colonies
- Direct inoculation from faecal sample, swab, isolate or suspension

**SELECTIVE**
- Inhibition of intrinsically resistant *E. casseliflavus* and *E. gallinarum*, reduces incidence of false-positive results compared to traditional media, minimising confirmatory testing

**REDUCES COST**
- Early presumptive identification of *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis* allows appropriate treatment and infection control procedures to be adopted earlier, improving treatment outcomes and the effectiveness of infection control measures
Oxoid Brilliance VRE Agar

Differentialation of vancomycin resistant *E. faecalis* from *E. faecalis* is achieved through the inclusion of two chromogens that are targeted by specific enzymes: phosphatase and α-galactosidase. The action of these enzymes on the chromogens results in a build-up of colour within the colony. The colour produced depends on which enzymes the organisms possess. The presence of phosphatase enzymes in both *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis* results in a light blue colony, however, *E. faecium* also produces α-galactosidase, resulting in a mix of blue and pink chromophores within the bacterium producing indigo to purple colonies, which are easily distinguished from the light blue *E. faecalis* colonies.

Additional antibiotics, in combination with vancomycin, are present to suppress the growth of competing flora including *E. gallinarum* and *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis*colonies.

*E. faecium* also produces α-galactosidase. The action of these enzymes on the chromogens results in a build-up of colour within the colony. The colour produced depends on which enzymes the organisms possess. The presence of phosphatase enzymes in both *E. faecium* and *E. faecalis* results in a light blue colony, however, *E. faecium* also produces α-galactosidase, resulting in a mix of blue and pink chromophores within the bacterium producing indigo to purple colonies, which are easily distinguished from the light blue *E. faecalis* colonies.

Oxoid Brilliance VRE Agar was evaluated at a clinical trial site, using a panel of 120 well-characterised, stored clinical isolates. Brilliance VRE Agar gave a sensitivity of 94.7% and 100% at 24 and 48 hours respectively, with the trial site reporting that it was able to detect more positives at 24 hours than with the competitor chromogenic agar currently in use.

In a separate internal evaluation, using a panel of 79 non VRE strains, Brilliance VRE Agar was 100% selective compared to a competitor media, which achieved selectivity of 94%.

Oxoid Brilliance VRE Agar is for *in vitro* diagnostic use only, by trained microbiologists. It must not be used beyond its stated expiry date, or if the product shows any signs of deterioration. Identifications are presumptive and should be confirmed.

**Screening Procedure**

- Inoculate Brilliance VRE plate directly with pea sized bead or loopful of specimen.
- Indigo to Purple *E. faecium*
- Light Blue *E. faecalis*
- Incubate plates at 37°C for 24 hours
- Positive
- Negative
- Negative plates should be re-incubated for an additional 24 hours

**Performance**

Vancomycin Resistant Enterococci (VRE) have recently emerged as nosocomial pathogens, due to the increased use of vancomycin for treatment of meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* in the United States of America and use of a vancomycin-like glycopeptide (avoparcin) as a growth promoter in animal husbandry in Europe.

In the U.S.A., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that as many as 1 in 3 infections amongst intensive care patients were caused by VRE. Early detection of VRE is important for infection control and prevention measures, epidemiological infectious disease follow-up, and also prevention of vancomycin resistant *Staphylococcus aureus emergence*.

**References**


**Oxoid Brilliance Agar Ready-Poured Plates**

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**Other Products in the Brilliance Resistance Screening Range**

- Brilliance MRSA Agar
- Brilliance ESBL Agar

The Oxoid product range offers the complete solution for all your VRE screening and testing needs.

**Culti-Loops™**

- Positive Control Strain
  - *Enterococcus faecalis* (Vancomycin Resistant) ATCC® 51298™
  - Identifications are presumptive and should be confirmed.
  - Pre-enrich in suitable selective broth prior to inoculation onto a Brilliance VRE plate. Use an incubation protocol appropriate to the broth chosen.

**Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing**

- **M.I.C.Evaluator™ Strips**
- **Vancomycin 256 - 0.015µg/ml**
- **Vancomycin 5µg Discs**

- **Discs**
  - **Vancomycin 5µg Discs**
  - **Vancomycin 30µg Discs**

Antimicrobial susceptibility testing discs for use with appropriate AST media in accordance with CLSI M44-A.

For more information about these and other products in the Oxoid Brilliance range of chromogenic media please visit www.oxoid.com.

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