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- The SPO Virtual Classrooms offer many educational resources, including practice test questions, review questions, lecture PowerPoints, video tutorials, sample assignments and course syllabi. New materials are continually being developed, so check back frequently, or follow us on Facebook (Science Prof Online) or Twitter (ScienceProfSPO) for updates.
- Many SPO PowerPoints are available in a variety of formats, such as fully editable PowerPoint files, as well as uneditable versions in smaller file sizes, such as PowerPoint Shows and Portable Document Format (.pdf), for ease of printing.
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## Laboratory Project 4

# Urine Cultures & Bacterial Identification

- Colony Counts
- Serial Dilutions
  - API-20E
- Antibiotic Sensitivity Testing



Images: Antibiotic sensitivity tests; Test tubes filled with liquid media, both by T. Port

# Urine Cultures

## Session 1

### Inoculating Media

*Q: Why are you inoculating this medium?*

*Q: What do you hope to learn about your sample?*

1.TSY

2.MAC



# Urine Cultures

## Session 1

### Inoculating Media

Pattern that you will use to inoculate your plates:



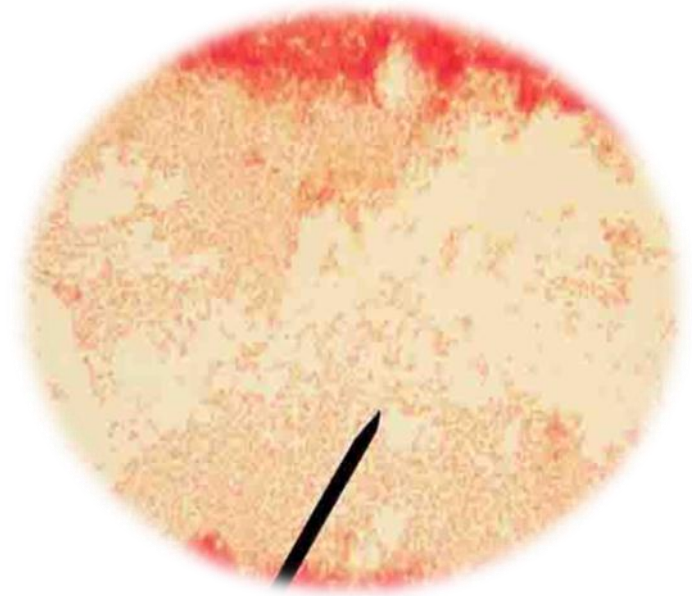
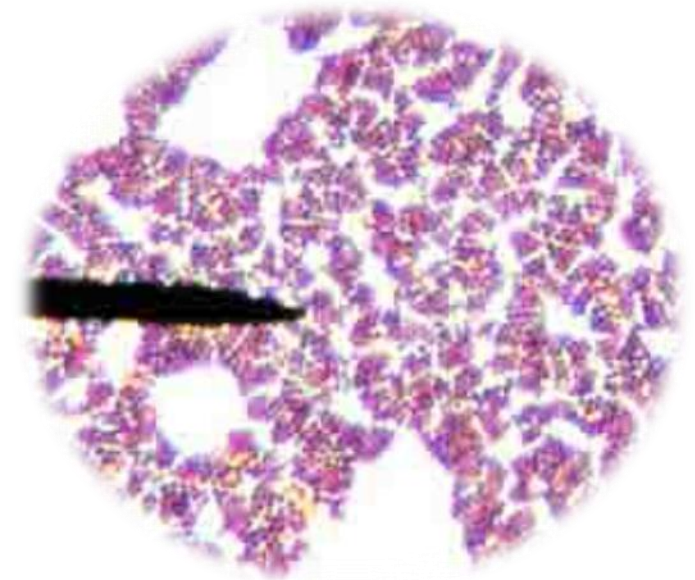
# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

### Tests to Identify Unknown Bacteria in Urine Culture

*Which tests do I do?*

1. First use [Gram stain](#) to determine cell wall structure and cell morphology of unknown.
2. Then see Lab Project 4 instructions for the proper tests to order for your patient.



Images: Gram stained microscope slide with controls; [Gram-positive bacteria](#) @ 1000xTM; [Gram-negative bacteria](#) @ 1000xTM, all by T. Port

# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

(Interpret in Session 3)

### Bacitracin Test

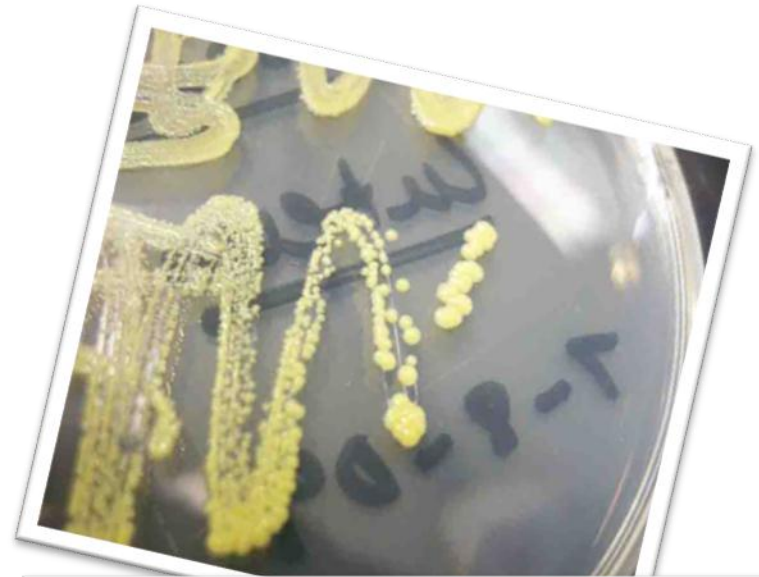
Bacitracin is a an antibiotic that does not work well orally, but is very effective topically (on eye and skin).

MOA is to interfere with construction of the thick Gram-positive peptidoglycan cell wall.

Bacitracin Test is an antibiotic sensitivity test utilizing a bacitracin infused disc.

The test helps identify *Micrococcus luteus*. *Micrococcus* is especially sensitive to Bacitracin, and will show a zone of inhibition > 30 millimeters.

Other bacteria in our laboratory stock cultures will have zones of inhibition < 30 millimeters.



Images: *Micrococcus luteus* colonies growing on TSY agar; Bacitracin test on *Staph epi* (left) & *M. luteus* (right), T. Port

# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

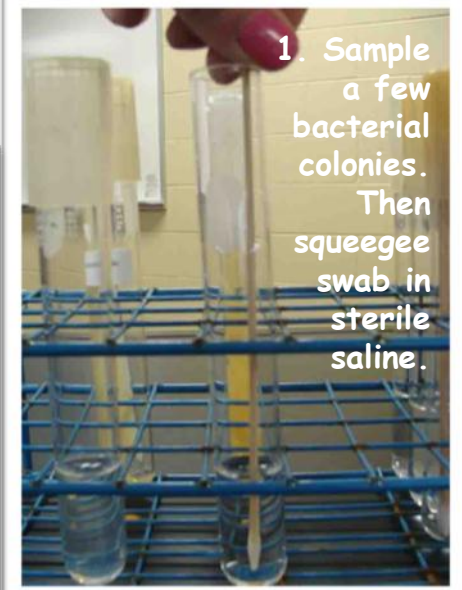
### Bacitracin Test

These photos correspond to the Lab Project 4, Session 2 Procedure for doing the Bacitracin Test.

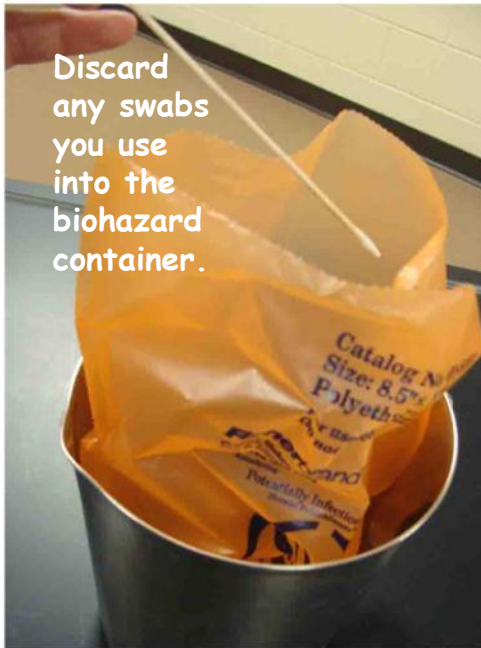
2. Use new sterile swab to sample bacterial suspension and paint onto surface of TSY.



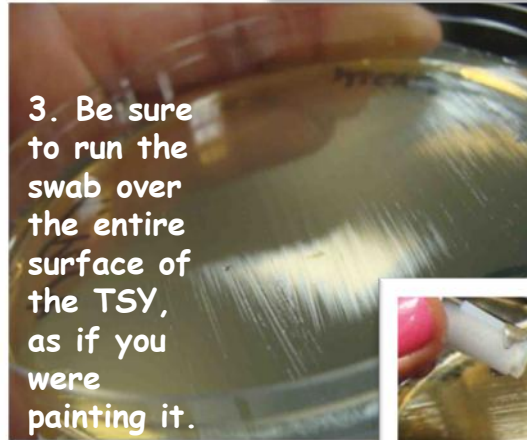
1. Sample a few bacterial colonies. Then squeeze swab in sterile saline.



Discard any swabs you use into the biohazard container.



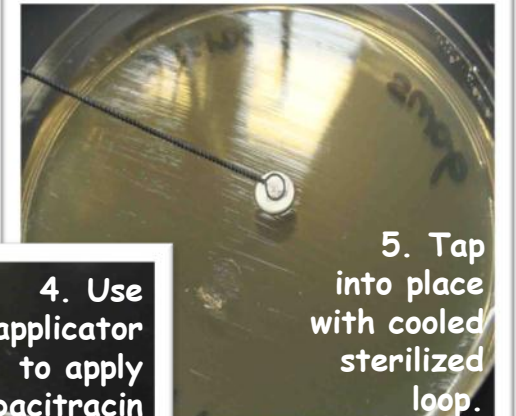
3. Be sure to run the swab over the entire surface of the TSY, as if you were painting it.



4. Use applicator to apply bacitracin sensitivity disk.



5. Tap into place with cooled sterilized loop.



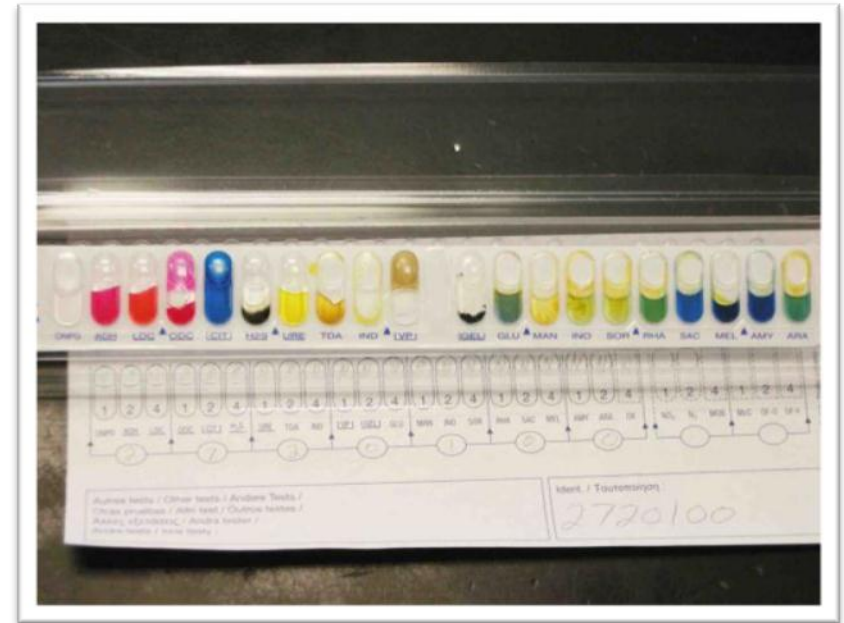
# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

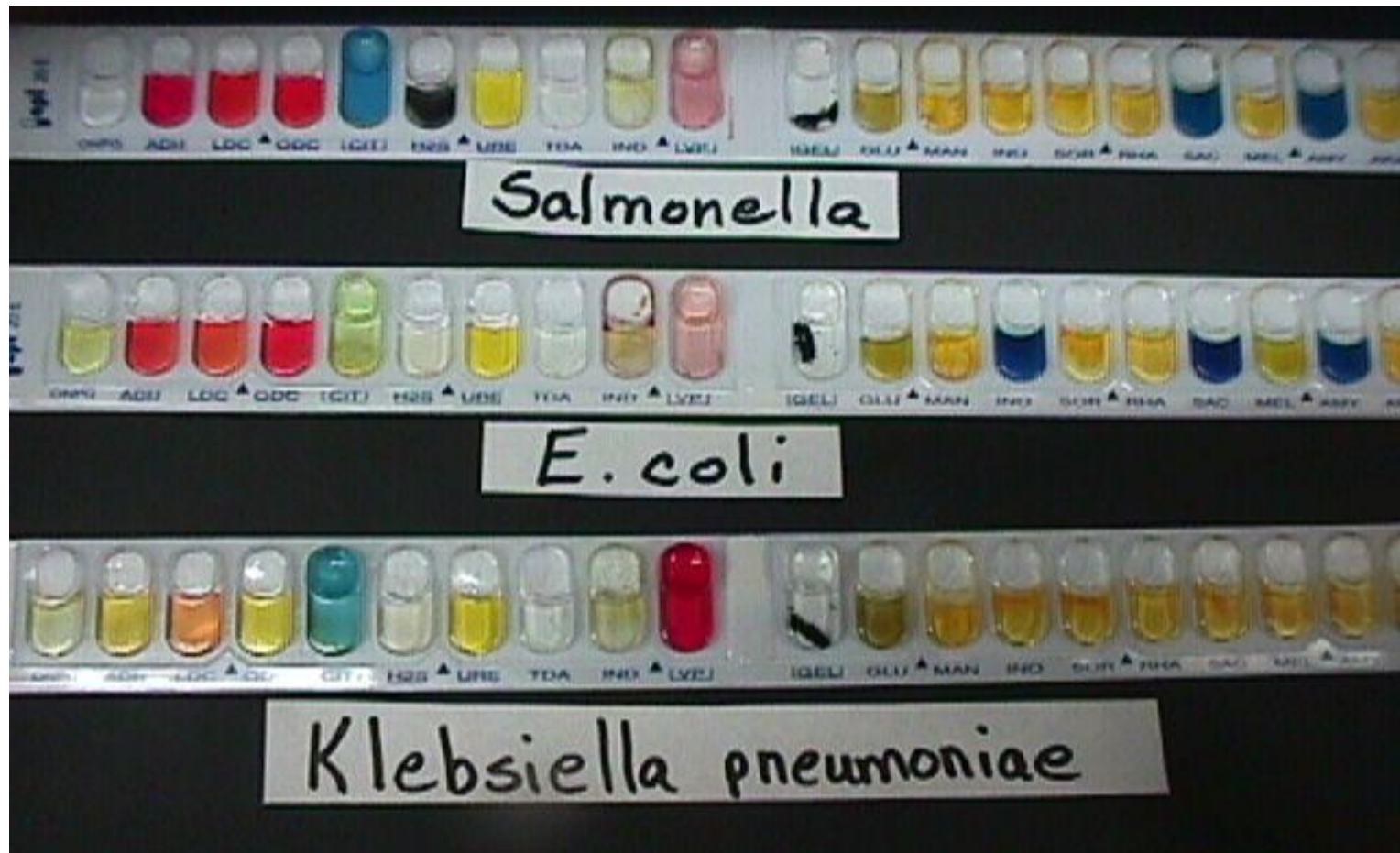
(Interpret in Session 3)

api®20E

- The **API-20E** test is used to ID Gram-negative bacilli from the family Enterobacteriaceae.
- *Q: So what test would someone need to do on a bacterial sample before utilizing the api®20E?*
- The api®20E is a system of 20 individual, miniaturized tests used to determine the **metabolic capabilities** of the organism.
- From identification of metabolic capabilities, we can zero in on the identification of the genus and species.
- The tests allow us to come up with a numerical 7-digit profile, based on which tests are positive and which are negative. You then look up that magic number, to find the species identification of your sample.







Required Reading on api20e:

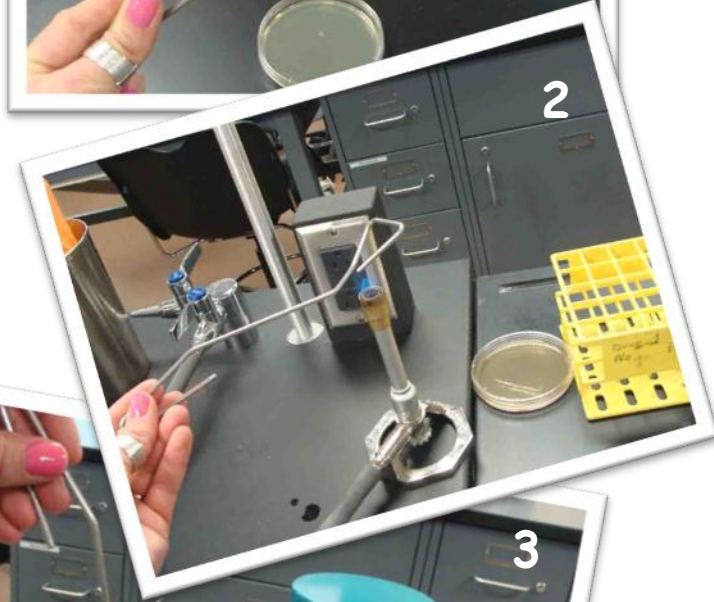
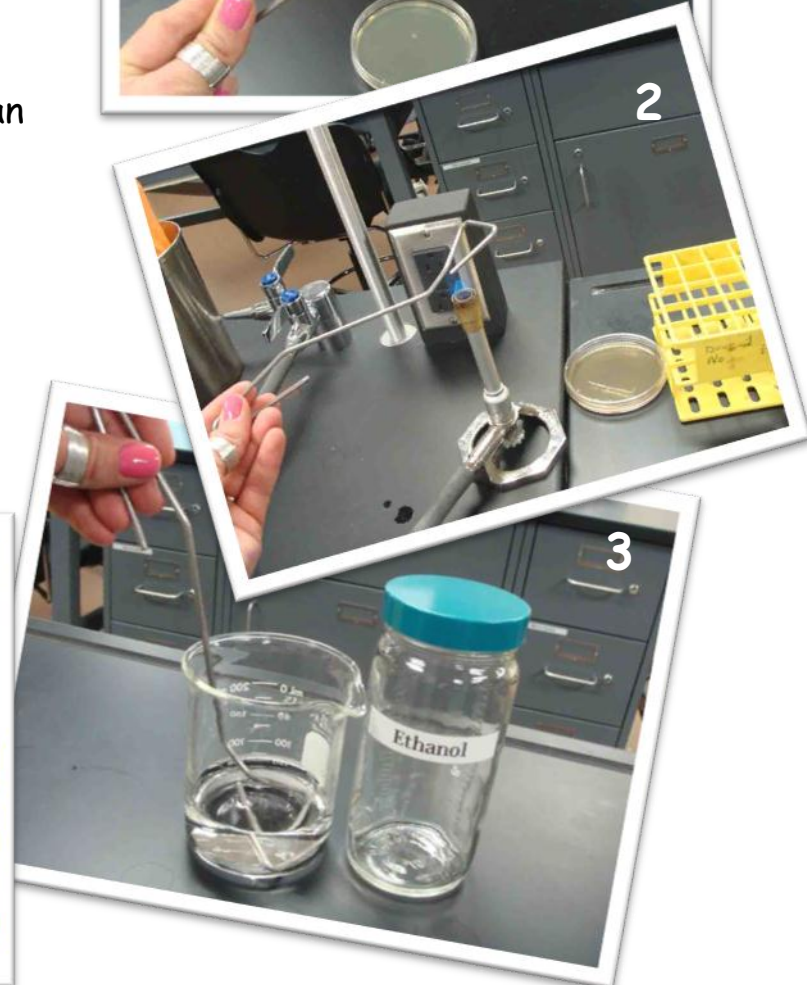
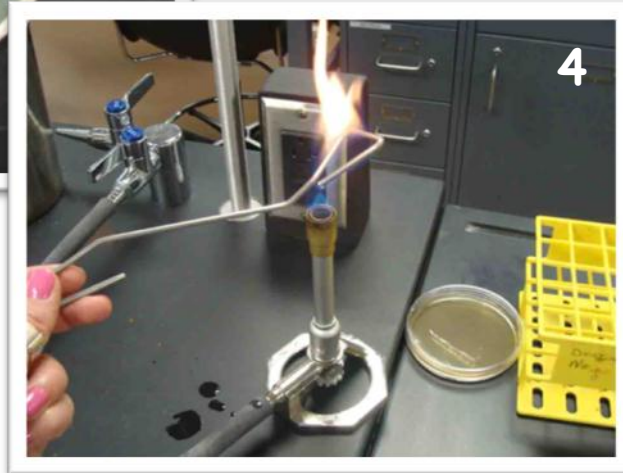
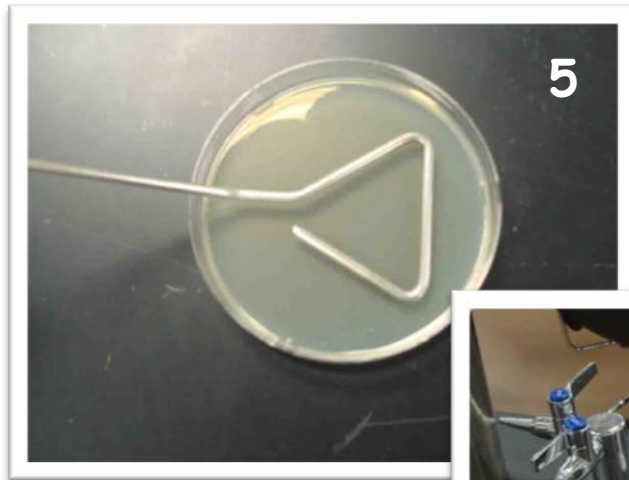
- Lindquist, J. (2010) "[API-20E Enteric Bacteria Identification System](#)" from *An Introduction to Bacterial Identification*.
- [API-20E Animation](#) from Microbe Library.
- [Reading the API-20E](#), a YouTube video from Dr. Kimmitt.

# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

### Antibiotic Testing

These photos correspond to the Lab **Project 4, Session 1 Procedure** for doing the Antibiotic Sensitivity Testing Procedure (antibiotics other than Bacitracin). Read instructions carefully.

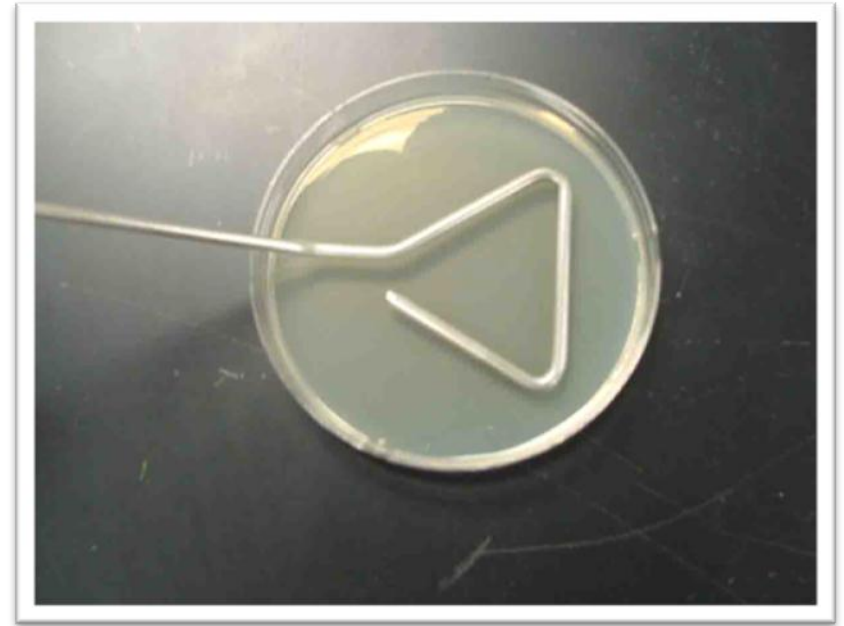


# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

### Antibiotic Testing

#### Heat Sink



Let spreader cool for  
**5 seconds** before  
touching it to anything  
(alcohol or media)!!

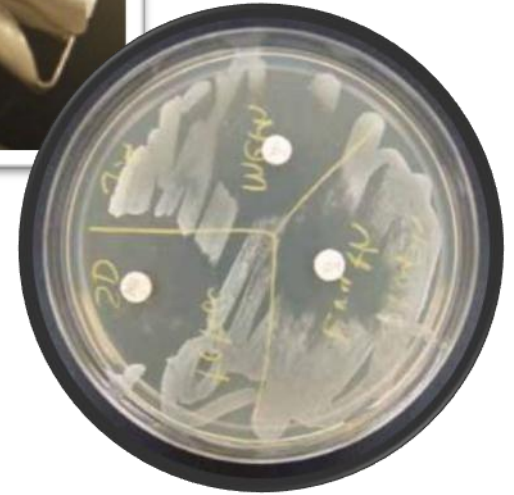
Images: TSY heat sink touched with spreader that was too hot, note melting of agar; Spreader and TSY agar, T. Port

# Urine Cultures

## Session 2

(Interpret in Session 3)

### Antibiotic Testing



- **Antimicrobics** are drugs used in the treatment of infectious disease.
- **Sensitivity disks** can show us which antimicrobial will be most effective in controlling a microbe.
- The disks that we will be using are impregnated with an antibiotic.
- A nutrient agar plate is uniformly inoculated with bacteria and the disks are placed on the media.
- Over the incubation period, the antibiotic diffuses out from the disk.
- If the microbe is sensitive to the antibiotic in question, a **zone of inhibition** (an area without bacterial growth) will occur around the disc.

# Urine Cultures

## Session 3

### Antibiotic Zones of Inhibition

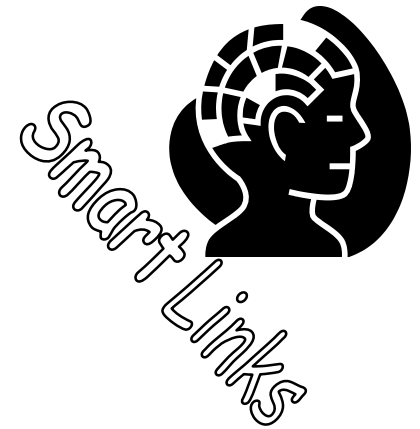
- After incubation you can collect **quantitative data** on the effectiveness of an antimicrobial drug by measuring the diameter of the **zone of inhibition**.
- Do not open the plate to do this! The measurement can be obtained the bottom of the plate.
- Measure in millimeters (mm).



Image: Zones of bacterial inhibition from antibiotic disks; Ruler showing inches & centimeters, T. Port

From the [Virtual Microbiology Classroom](#) of [ScienceProfOnline.com](#)

# Confused?



Here are links to fun resources that further explain microbiology media & culture:

- **Urine Cultures & Bacterial Identification Laboratory Main Pages** on the Virtual Microbiology Classroom of [Science Prof Online](#).
- How to Interpret: [MacConkey's \(MAC\)](#), [Mannitol Salt \(MSA\)](#) and [Blood Agar \(BAP\)](#) videos from Science Prof Online.
- [Bacterial growth](#) video and narration, YouTube, Dizzo95..
- [Gram Stain](#) Interactive Tutorial. This is an extremely useful tutorial that shows, step-by-step, what happens in Gram-positive and Gram-negative cells during Gram staining.
- [Acid-fast Stain](#) Animated Tutorial. The staining procedure depicted in this tutorial differs a bit from how we do it in lab, but this tutorial is still very useful. Shows the steps of the staining procedure and the resulting color of Acid-fast and Nonacid-fast cells.
- [Endospore Stain](#) PowerPoint. Although this is just a PPT, it does have useful information and images for students learning about the endospore stain.
- [API-20E Animation](#) from Microbe Library.
- [Reading the API-20E](#), a YouTube video from Dr. Kimmitt.

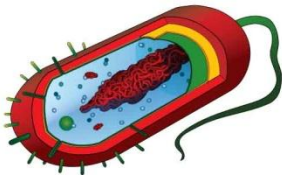


# Are microbes intimidating you?

*Do yourself a favor. Use the...*

## Virtual Microbiology Classroom (VMC) !

The VMC is full of resources to help you succeed,  
including:



- practice test questions
- review questions
- study guides and learning objectives

You can access the VMC by going to the Science Prof Online website

[www.ScienceProfOnline.com](http://www.ScienceProfOnline.com)