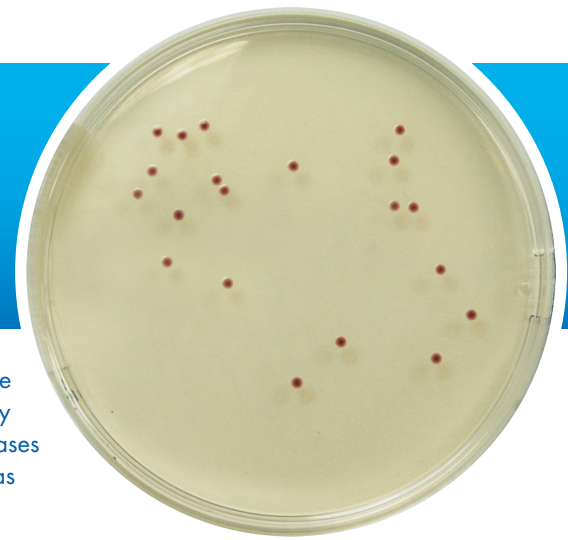


# PP3041 COLOREX™ O 157 CT



Vero cytotoxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (VTEC) group can cause gastroenteritis via the consumption of contaminated food or water. *E.coli* O 157 is the serotype most commonly isolated from individuals with VTEC infection. While the incidence is low, around 900 cases per year in the UK, VTEC infections can be fatal or lead to serious complications, such as haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS) that can cause kidney failure.

Laboratory diagnostic methods typically use Sorbitol MacConkey agar supplemented with cefixime and potassium tellurite (CT-SMAC) as the medium of choice for the detection of *E.coli* O 157. However, some variants may grow poorly on CT-SMAC and/or may be sorbitol positive leading to false negative results.

Colorex™ O 157 CT is a chromogenic medium designed to facilitate the detection of *E.coli* O 157 with a high level of sensitivity (~98%) in clinical and environmental samples.<sup>(1)</sup> The distinct colour of the colonies allows for the easy visual assessment of the sample even if it is heavily contaminated. The selectivity of the medium is enhanced by the addition of the CT supplement.

*E.coli* O 157 – Mauve colonies

*E.coli* & other coliforms – Blue colonies or inhibited

*Proteus* spp. – Colourless colonies

Other bacterial species – Blue/colourless colonies or inhibited.

<sup>(1)</sup> Bettelheim K.A. 1998. Journal of Applied Microbiology, 85: 425-428.

Formula	gm/L	Properties	
Peptones & yeast extract	13.0	Appearance	Firm Gel
Chromogenic mix	1.2	Colour	Straw
Agar	15.0	pH	7.0 ± 0.2
		Storage	2 - 8 °C
Additives		Shelf Life	35 days
Cefixime	0.05mg/L		
Potassium tellurite	2.5mg/L		

Quality Control Test Organisms	Ref. No.	Result
<i>Escherichia coli</i> O 157	NCTC 12900	Growth / Mauve Colonies
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	NCTC 12241	Inhibited

Recommended Incubation : Aerobically at 37°C ± 1 °C for 18 - 24 hours