

SFHCHS188

Prepare culture media and solutions



Overview

This standard has a broad range and relates to the production of suitable media and a variety of solutions including stains, buffers and reagents.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 weigh, measure and dispense the appropriate powders and solutions accurately
- P2 use aseptic procedures or other specific handling procedures during the preparation process
- P3 follow the appropriate standing operating procedures, policies and protocols for the method of preparation
- P4 use clean/sterile appropriate prepared utensils as necessary
- P5 confirm the equipment to be used is fit for purpose and practice
- P6 utilise all relevant equipment in a safe and correct manner
- P7 record all relevant batch information in the appropriate manner
- P8 maintain correct rotation of stock as necessary
- P9 ensure products are stored appropriately
- P10 report any factors which may influence the effective preparation of the product
- P11 take appropriate action to respond to an unexpected situation, problem or event

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 relevant standard operating procedures, statutory, regulatory and legislative
- K2 hazards and risks associated with the preparation of media and solutions and how to assess and manage these
- K3 the safe and correct use of exhaust protective cabinets, extraction hoods and personal protective equipment
- K4 the operation of relevant equipment in accordance with manufacturers instructions
- K5 relevant protocols for the preparation of media and solutions
- K6 aseptic and other specific handling procedures
- K7 the level of detail required for audit purposes
- K8 expiry dates and their relevance to stock control
- K9 the correct storage conditions for each product
- K10 factors influencing the preparation of media and solutions, how to recognise them and what corrective action is required
- K11 contingency and risk assessments relating to specimen/sample testing
- K12 the importance of working effectively to make efficient use of resources and meet prioritisation needs

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB8 Biomedical investigation and intervention

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Originating organisation	Skills for Health
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Relevant occupations	Health, Public Services and Care; Medicine and Dentistry; Nursing and Subjects and Vocations Allied; Healthcare and Related Personal Services
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Suite	Clinical Health Skills
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Key words	Buffers, Culture media, Reagents, Stains
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