

# V.O.L.T

(Veterinary Office Laboratory Tests)

## C&S Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why does the bacteria turn a different color in the Multichrome Bi-Plate?

**Answer:** Chromogenic media are microbiological media suitable for incubation, differentiation, or selection of many microorganisms by using chromogenic substrates and resulting in color production. These colors will be distinctive depending on the target microorganism and it will allow an easier and accurate differentiation.

2. Why can't a gram (-) bacteria grow on the positive side of the Bi-plate and vice versa?

**Answer:** The chromogenic material is designed to only allow either Gram Positive or Negative bacteria to grow depending on its chemical composition. All other bacteria will be rendered inactive and not allowed to replicate.

3. How long is the expiration dating?

**Answer:** 8 months from date of shipping.

4. Why does your MultiChrome have a long expiration date when other culture plates have 45-90?

**Answer:** MultiChrome had a unique stabilization formula which prevents the media from breaking down. It is also made in "Just In Time" batches, refrigerated and sent via Air to customers to ensure the longest dating possible.

5. Why do you recommend that the MultiChrome Bi-Plates be pre-heated prior to inoculating them with a sample?

**Answer:** Refrigeration necessary to preserve the media will also inhibit proper growth of bacteria if it is not pre-heated. Your Kacey Micro Incubator has a pre-heat function that will ensure your media is ready to use.



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6. Why do you store the MultiChrome upside down in your packaged box:?

**Answer:** To prevent condensation from forming on the cover which could rain down on the media causing a false reading.

7. Why do you recommend that the MultiChrome be preheated upside down and after inoculated it be placed in the incubator upside down?

**Answer:** Condensation which is naturally occurring especially after refrigeration may otherwise contaminate the surface of the media with unwanted microbial agents in the water droplets.

8. What do I do with the MultiChrome bi-plates once read?

**Answer:** It is important to understand these are live, potentially zoonotic organisms which must be handled with caution. Spray the inside of the plates with your hospital antimicrobial spray, cover and tape sealed placing the bi-plate in your biohazard bin.

9. How should I test for sensitivity on MultiChrome plates that have both Gram Positive and Gram Negative results?

**Answer:** In most cases it is recommended that each type be further cultured for sensitivity in their own separate Kacey Mueller Hinton Plate.

10. Can a sample be over incubated?

**Answer:** Yes, over incubation will cause an excessive colony growth which can alter results. The Kacey Micro Incubator has six timers, one for each sample along with a 24 hour alert prevent over incubation.



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