

Microbiology Lab Experiment Changes

Experiment #: 7-1

Title: Snyder Test for Dental Caries

Live Organisms: You

Changes: Work individually.

1. If the Snyder deeps are melted, saturate a sterile swab with your saliva.
2. Remove one melted agar deep from the water bath and inoculate it with the swab by twirling the swab in the melted agar.
3. Rotate deep between palms to mix. Label tube and put in test tube rack for incubation.

Alternate Method:

1. If the Snyder deeps are not melted, saturate a sterile swab with your saliva.
2. Stab one agar deep with your swab, pushing the swab all the way to the bottom of the deep. **Leave** swab in the deep. If swab is too long, either break off or cut off tip so tube cap fits.
3. Label tube and put in test tube rack for incubation.

Take Home Lesson: Lactobacilli and streptococci ferment glucose to produce acids that erode tooth enamel and promote tooth decay leading to dental caries (cavities). Snyder media has a pH of 4.8 which inhibits many bacteria except lactobacilli and streptococci. What type of media is this? See questions 1 and 2 at end of experiment.