

## GRAM CONTROL SLIDES KC1600

*Staphylococcus aureus* - *Escherichia coli*,  
Item no. KC1600 (50bx)

### PURPOSE:

The smears on these slides are used to quality control the stain reagents and staining procedures used to detect Gram reactions of microorganisms in patient specimens.

### PRINCIPLE:

The Gram Stain-Control Slides are used to routinely check the stain reagents and procedures used by the laboratory. Many regulatory and certification agencies require laboratories to perform routine quality control on stains and procedures. The Gram Control slides consist of suspensions of *Staphylococcus aureus* (Gram positive) and *Escherichia coli* (Gram negative) organisms in saline, heat fixed for safety and ease of use. The majority of the organisms present in the smears demonstrate typical cellular morphology and stain reactions. The organisms are present in high enough numbers that can be easily found when examining a smear.

### FORMULA:

*Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 25923)  
*Escherichia coli* (ATCC 25922)

### PRECAUTIONS :\*

For in vitro diagnostic use. The organisms are non-viable due to fixation; however, observe approved biohazard procedures. After use, discard as for an infectious material.

**Storage Instructions:** Upon receipt store at room temperature. Slides should not be used if there are signs of breakage, deterioration, or if the expiration date has passed.

**Limitations:** To obtain reliable staining reactions and meaningful quality control information, the person who is doing the staining procedures and interpreting the results should be trained and experienced in microbiology. Variations made in a recognized procedure could affect staining results and interpretation.

### PROCEDURE:\*

Specimen Collection: Not applicable.

Method of Use: The Control Slides are ready for staining using recognized stain reagents and procedure(s). No further preparation is necessary.

### INTERPRETATION:

Other Materials Required but Not Supplied: Standard microbiological supplies such as slides, stains, reagents, and microscope are not provided.

### QUALITY CONTROL:\*

Prepared control slides should be stained using approved staining reagents and techniques appropriate to the control slide.

Organisms observed are in adequate numbers, and the majority exhibit the typical cellular morphology and stain reaction.

### Microorganism Used / Expected Results:

*Escherichia coli* (ATCC 25922) / Gram stain negative; pink-red rods  
*Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 25923) / Gram stain positive; purple-blue cocci

### BIBLIOGRAPHY:

1. Continuing Education Series: CDC 76:7, 78:33, 34, 35, Laboratory and Consultation Branch, Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta.
2. Murray, P. R., et al., Manual of Clinical Microbiology, 6th ed., American Society for Microbiology, Washington, D.C., 1995



KEY Scientific Products  
1113 E. Reynolds  
Stamford, Texas 79553  
800-843-1539  
[www.keyscientific.com](http://www.keyscientific.com)