

# METHODS OF CULTURING MICROORGANISMS

## THE FIVE I's



## The Five I's

Represent five basic techniques to manipulate, grow, examine, and characterize microorganisms in the laboratory:

- Inoculation
- Incubation
- Isolation
- Inspection
- Identification



# Definitions

## Culture:

- Propagation of microorganisms with various media
- Growth of microorganisms in or on a nutrient medium

## Medium (plural: media):

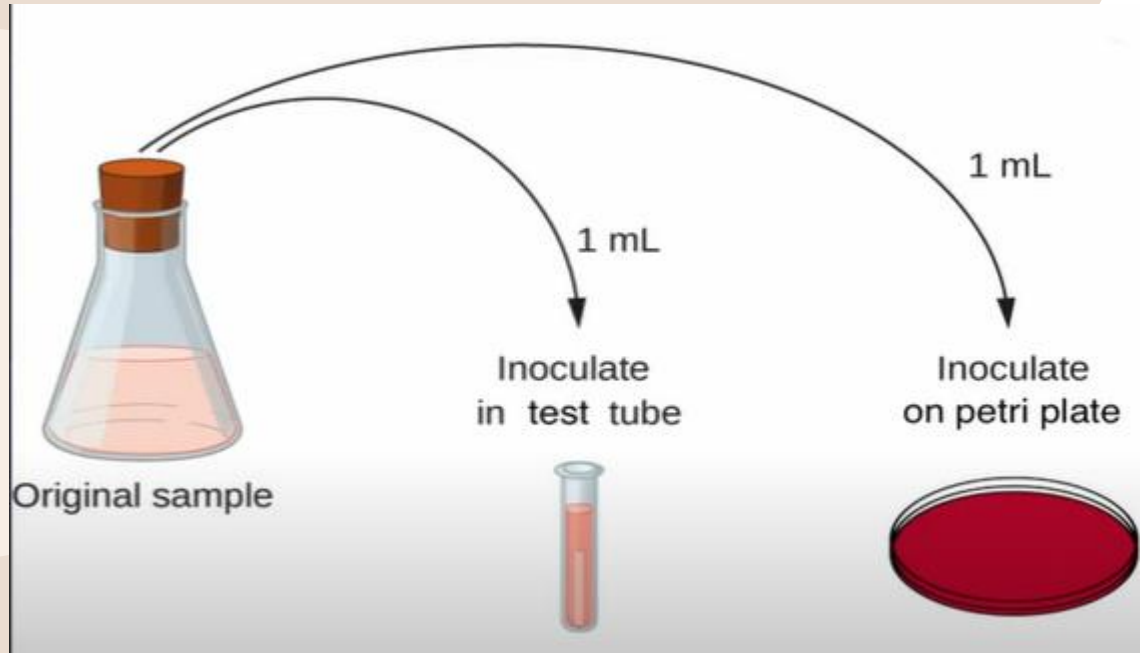
- A nutrient-containing environment in which microbes can multiply

## Sterile:

- Free of all life forms including spores and viruses
- A requirement for any instrument used for sampling and inoculation



Introduction of  
microbes into or  
upon media for  
culture





## Incubation

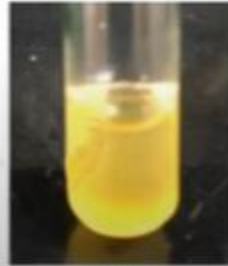
- Usual temperatures used in lab: 20 to 45°C
- Incubators can also control atmospheric gases such as oxygen and carbon dioxide



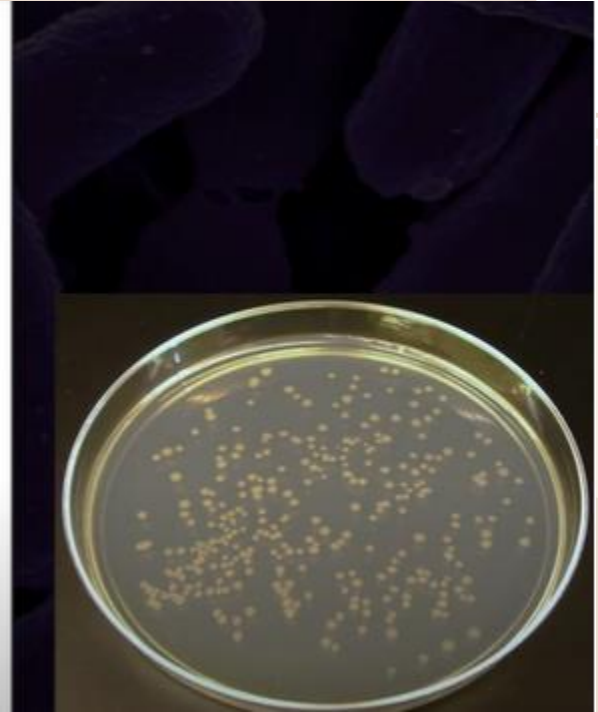
- Microbial growth in liquid medium:
  - Cloudiness, sediment, scum, color
- Microbial growth on solid medium:
  - Colonies: visible masses of piled-up cells



no growth



growth





Credit: Mark Fergus, CSIRO Wikimedia CC 3.0

## Isolation

### Requirements of Isolation:

- A small number of cells must be inoculated into a relatively large volume or expansive area of media selected to encourage growth
- A relatively firm surface
- A Petri dish
- Inoculating tools such as an inoculating loop



## Isolation: Streak Plate Method

Metode gores umumnya digunakan mengisolasi koloni mikroba pada cawan agar sehingga didapatkan koloni terpisah dan merupakan biakan murni. Dasar metode ini yaitu dengan menggoreskan suspensi bahan yang mengandung mikroba pada permukaan medium agar yang sesuai pada cawan petri. Setelah inkubasi maka pada bekas goresan akan tumbuh koloni-koloni terpisah yang mungkin berasal dari 1 sel mikroba, sehingga dapat diisolasi lebih lanjut. Penggoresan yang sempurna akan menghasilkan koloni yang terpisah. Bakteri yang memiliki flagella seringkali membentuk koloni yang menyebar terutama bila digunakan lempengan yang basah. Untuk mencegah hal itu harus digunakan lempengan agar yang benar-benar kering permukaannya





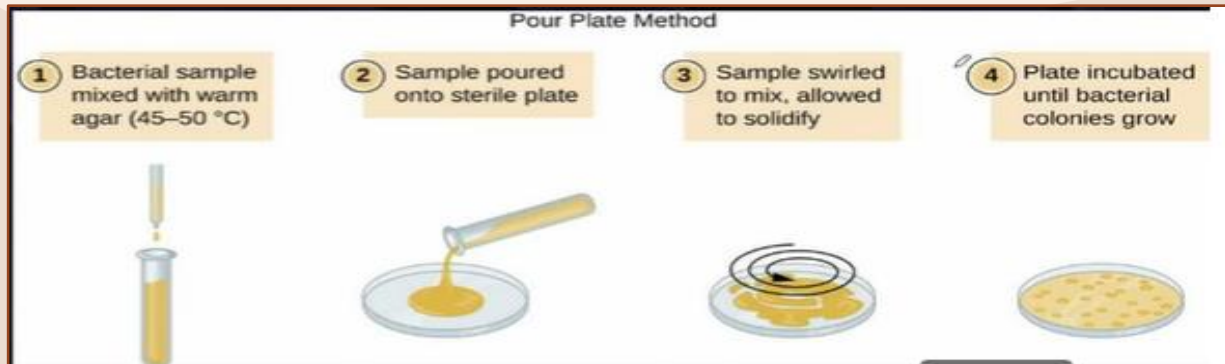
## Spread Plate Method (Tebar/Sebar)

Teknik spread plate merupakan teknik isolasi mikroba dengan cara menginokulasi kultur mikroba secara pulasan/sebaran di permukaan media agar yang telah memadat. Metode ini dilakukan dengan mengencerkan biakan kultur mikroba. Karena konsentrasi sel-sel mikroba pada umumnya tidak diketahui, maka pengenceran perlu dilakukan beberapa tahap, sehingga sekurang-kurangnya ada satu dari pengenceran itu yang mengandung koloni terpisah (30-300 koloni). Koloni mikrobia yang terpisah memungkinkan koloni tersebut dapat dihitung



# Isolation: Pour Plate Method

Dasar dari metode ini yaitu menginokulasi medium agar yang sedang mencair pada temperatur 45-50°C dengan suspensi bahan yang mengandung mikroba, dan menuangkannya ke dalam cawan petri steril. Setelah inkubasi akan terlihat koloni-koloni yang tersebar di permukaan agar yang mungkin berasal dari 1 sel bakteri, sehingga dapat diisolasi lebih lanjut.



## Isolation: Definitions

### Pure Culture:

- A container of medium that contains only a single known species or type of microorganism
- Used most frequently for laboratory study
- Anexic: free of other living things except for the one being studied
- Subculture: a second-level culture from a well-isolated colony



## Isolation: Definitions

### Mixed and Contaminated Cultures:

- Mixed culture:
  - A container that holds two or more identified, easily differentiated species of microorganisms
- Contaminated culture:
  - A culture that was once pure or mixed that now contains contaminants, or unwanted microbes of uncertain identity



## Inspection and Identification

Microbial profiles are determined through combining:

- Phenotypic testing
- Genotypic testing
- Immunologic testing
- Macroscopic analysis
- Microscopic analysis



## Inspection and Identification

Biochemical tests can determine fundamental chemical characteristics such as:

- Nutrient requirements
- Products given off during growth
- Presence of enzymes
- Mechanisms for deriving energy

Other analytical and diagnostic tools:

- Genotypic testing: detects microbes based on their DNA
- Immunologic testing: testing the isolate against known antibodies



# THANKS!

Do you have any questions?



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