



Clinical Laboratory Department POLICY AND PROCEDURE

POLICY NUMBER: 1082
VERSION: 3

SUBJECT: AnaeroGen System for Generating an Anaerobic Culture Environment

Principle:

Each individual sachet is sufficient for use in an anaerobic jar of approximately 2.5 liters volume. The atmospheric oxygen in the jar is rapidly absorbed with the simultaneous generation of carbon dioxide. This method differs from other generating systems in that the reaction proceeds without hydrogen, thus eliminating the need for a catalyst. In addition, no water is needed to activate the reaction. When used as directed, the sachet will reduce the oxygen level in the jar to below 1% within 30 minutes. The resulting carbon dioxide level will be between 9% and 13%.

Materials:

Polycarbonate GasPak jar or box with lid.
Anaerogen sachets
Anaerobic Indicator

Storage:

Store at 2-25°C. Under proper storage conditions sachets will retain their reactivity to the expiration date printed on the outer box and on the foil sachet. Avoid direct sunlight and excessive temperatures.

Quality Control:

The anaerobic indicator must change from blue to white (reduced) within 2-4 hours at 35°C to assure that anaerobic conditions have been achieved within the bag. Stock anaerobe cultures are incubated on agar plates under anaerobic conditions which serve to check the quality of the system as well.

Procedure:

1. Place the inoculated plates into the anaerobic jar or box. Use 1 sachet for a 2.5 L jar or box and 3 sachets for a 7.0 L jar. Do not stack sachets.
2. Initiate the activation by tearing open the AnaeroGen at the tear mark on the outer foil. Remove the paper sachet and immediately place in the jar. Place an Anaerobic Indicator in the jar also.

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3. Close the jar immediately. The time between opening the sachet and sealing the jar should not exceed one minute.
4. After incubation, remove the sachet and indicator and discard in a proper waste container. If the plates require additional incubation, repeat the above steps using new sachet and indicator.

References:

AnaeroGen Product Information Sheet, 9/02, Oxoid Ltd, UK.

Approved By: Brian Yee (PHYS SPEC PATHOLOGY)	
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