

LOOP CALIBRATORS

OPERATION PRINCIPLE:

Standard SCI's Nichrome V loops calibrated to deliver 0.001ml (1ul) and 0.01ml (10ul) are used to inoculate culture media with liquid specimens when colony counts are required. The SCI loops are composed of 26 gauge twisted nichrome wire. Although applicable to nearly any liquid or specimen, this inoculation method is most frequently used when urine is submitted for bacterial culture.

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE AND FUNCTION CHECK SCHEDULE:

Daily: The delivery volume of calibrated loops may change due to damage, corrosion, or build-up of incinerated material. It should be visually inspected to confirm that the loop is still round and the circle has not parted.

Weekly: To verify that the loops have maintained their proper size, insert the end of the 0.001ml loop through the green end of the calibrated gauge (#7020). A 0.001ml loop of proper size fits over the green side of gauge, but not over the red side of gauge. Follow the same procedure for the 0.01ml calibrated loop, using the 0.01ml calibrated gauge (#7010).

WARNING: The SCI loop calibrator is designed to calibrate **only** 26-gauge wire. The inside diameter of the loops made with 29-gauge wire is too large to be used with these calibrators. The loops now provided by Hardy Diagnostics are made of 26-gauge nichrome wire.

References:

- 1. Barry, Arthur L.; Smith, B. Bird; Turck, Marvin; and Gavin, Thomas L.; "Laboratory Diagnosis of Urinary Tract Infections", CUMITECH 2; American Society for Microbiology; Washington, D.C.; April, 1975.
- 2. Standard Methods for the Examination of Dairy Products; American Public Health Association; Washington, D.C.; Twelfth Edition, 1967; Fourteenth Edition, 1978.