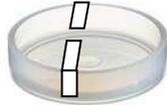


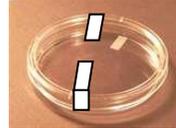
Environmental Petri Dishes Protocol

The concept in testing the ambient air is to determine the microbiological content. There is no established regulatory standard for the microbiological load in the air currently. However, these standards should be determined internally after conducting a risk analysis and based on historical data.

1. It is important to use these dishes for testing as soon as possible after receiving them. Any storage time prior to testing should be done in a refrigerator. Ideally, you will receive the dishes on day #1, use them on day #1 or #2, and mail them back by day #2.
2. Expose the petri dish to the air for approximately 15 minutes. (See separate instruction sheet for compressed air testing). The control plate(s) can be exposed to ambient temperatures but should not be opened for exposure to the air.
3. Record sample location identification on the top of the dish (larger side without agar) and minimize writing on dishes which may obstruct reading view. Ideally, a numerical value will be assigned, and a sample key will accompany the samples with the information to be reported (ex. plate has a "2" and sample key identifies sample 2 as Line #5 winder).
4. Once the dishes have been used for testing, tape them shut to contain any bacteria or mold that may grow. Use only 2 or 3 pieces of clear tape to hold them closed. Please do not use masking tape or other opaque tape.



place
tape
here



5. The control and tested dishes should be shipped back to the PCI laboratory ASAP by overnight courier & should not be shipped on Friday for weekend delivery to ensure proper incubation time and temperature of dishes.



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